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International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union
(ILGWU)

12-1934

Justice (Vol. 16, Iss. 12)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)

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Keywords

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, ILGWU, labor unions, clothing workers, textile workers, garment workers, garment industry, New York, United States

Comments

Justice was the official publication of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union ILGWU from 1919 to 1995. Editions of *Justice* were published in English, Italian, Spanish, and Yiddish. When compared side by side, the content of some of these different editions of *Justice* shows significant differences. This is the English-language edition of *Justice*.

Cutters' News of the Month

(Continued from previous page)
be apprehended by control committees resorting to the practice of working during lunch hour or starting to work earlier than the prescribed hours in the morning. An outstanding violation of this type was the case of the Edlises Dress. For over three months the cutters of this shop used to come in earlier than nine in the morning and would take a half-hour for lunch instead of an hour. The cutters were summoned to the Executive Board where they flatly denied having worked illegal hours. However, after investigation it was discovered that on the very night of the Executive Board meeting the employer advised the cutters to stand pat and instructed them to deny the charges no matter how rigid the examination conducted by the Union might be. After some cross-examination, the cutters admitted the truth and were fined \$50 each.

In the Cornell Sportswear, 413-7th Avenue, the cutters were suspected of starting to work earlier and of working during lunch hour. A committee was sent up to the shop and the cutters were found working at 8:15 in the morning. They were summoned to the Executive Board and when questioned stated that they started to work earlier because they had decided to stop working at 4:30 that evening. The Executive Board discovered that for two weeks these cutters would start to work at 8:30 in the morning and stop at 5 in the evening. The Executive Board decided to fine the cutters \$40 each. Cutter Ben Silverberg, the chairman, was fined \$15, as he assumed a defiant attitude towards the Executive Board insisting that he was innocent and that the Board was trying to "frame" him.

In connection with this it is significant for all cutters to remember that this type of chiseling is considered by the Union just as grave as working late in the evening. Working early in the morning and during lunch hours is just as denigrating as any other violation. We, therefore, use this means of admonishing

cutters against violating the 35-hour week in any form.

Concert At Meeting of Miscellaneous Division

As reported in "Justice" on many occasions in the past, many group, shop, and building chairman meetings are now being held in the large headquarters of Local No. 10.

In the Miscellaneous Division, where the workers consist largely of a new and younger element, special attention is being paid to these newcomers. In fact, a systematic educational work in this direction has been carried on among them since the general strike in the miscellaneous trades, and it can be stated with satisfaction that the vast majority of these young recruits are becoming quite union-conscious and are beginning to display a real sense of responsibility and to live up to the rules of the Union and of the agreement.

The Miscellaneous Division is growing into a solid and powerful part of the local. This branch held a meeting on Monday, October 15 in Arlington Hall, and the doors of the hall had to be shut at 5 o'clock after the balconies and every inch of space in the hall were filled to capacity and some two hundred members were turned away for lack of room. In addition to the report made by Manager Samuel Perlmutter, Comrade Henry Frutcher delivered a most instructive and inspiring address which was received by the membership with genuine satisfaction. An excellent musical program culled as a most pleasant surprise. The program consisted of the following members: James Phillips, Y. Hirska, and a Russian singer. This is the first time in the history of Local No. 10, that a membership meeting of this type took place.

Control in the Smaller Trades

10

The Miscellaneous Branch is also very active in keeping a close watch over work conditions.

Recent cases brought before the Executive Board bears this out. In the case of Harold Bloss, it was found that the cutters of this shop were working below the scale. Cut-

ter Benjamin Klingner was receiving \$21 per week while holding a working card for \$25, and Brother Hyman Richland was receiving \$30, while holding a card for \$35. A collection of \$300 in back pay was obtained from the firm and the cutters were called before the Executive Board and fined \$50 each.

In the case of the Rivoli Corset Co., Cutter Jos. Rubin was found to have been working below the scale. He held a working card for \$30 and was only receiving \$25. He never complained to the office. Upon discovery of this violation the office collected \$100 from the firm. The cutter was then fined \$50.

Exchange of Telegrams

When the office of Local 10 learned on October 13 that President Dubinsky was elected vice-president of the American Federation of Labor at San Francisco convention, manager-secretary Samuel Perlmutter forwarded to him the following telegram:

"Heartiest congratulations upon your election. Holiday spirit prevails in Local 10. The executive board and membership wish more power to you to carry on for our great and noble cause which you represent."

To which President Dubinsky replied: "Your telegram reflecting feeling of affection and warm comradeship on part of my fellow members in Local 10 touched me deeply. Accept my sincere thanks and convey my gratitude to all officers, and active members who sent me message."

ATTENTION! CUTTERS, MEMBERS OF LOCAL NO. 10

Meetings for the month of November will take place in the order as herein arranged:

1. Regular Membership Meeting.
Monday, November 12, 1934.
2. Regular Membership Meeting.
Monday, November 26, 1934.

All the above meetings are to be held in Arlington Hall, 23 St. Marks Place, at 7:30 P.M. sharp.

Cutters are urged to attend without fail.

JUSTICE

Official Organ of The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union

Vol. XVI, No. 12.

Jersey City, N. J., December, 1934

Price 10 Cents



Injunction or No Injunction

Editorial Notes

The I.L.G.W.U. Stands Intact

The sum total of the reports and discussions which enveloped the quarterly meeting of the G.E.B., held in Canada-indeed, in Montreal, may be stated as follows: Despite the continued depression and the especially unfavorable work-season in most of the women's garment markets this Fall the lines of the I.L.G.W.U. hold firm.

Not a single break in the entire front of the Union had been reported by either the members of the Board or by President Dubinsky. Fighting, principally of an organizing nature, continues in a number of sectors in the Middle West, where the I.L.G.W.U. is waging an offensive campaign in the cotton garment and rainwear industries; there is expansion of activity in New England and in Western and Central Pennsylvania, where every town and hamlet seems to be harboring a garment factory; the Cleveland organization is making energetic efforts to unionize the large knitwear industry of that city, while on the Pacific Coast ceaseless activity is proceeding to bring under the colors of the Union the thousands of dress and underwear workers who are still outside the fold.

Kansas City, Mo., however, appears to be the center of the hottest fight carried on by the I.L.G.W.U. in many a season for the right to organize the workers. With the aid of a detective agency which has spread its tentacles from St. Louis to many cities in Missouri, the organized employers of Kansas City have built up company unions in a number of factories and have been carrying on, with the aid of a subservient police department and a local flunkie press, a virtual campaign of terror against our organizers and members. The I.L.G.W.U., however, is going ahead with its educational work among the Kansas City dress and cloak workers and will not call a halt until its rights are no longer challenged by enemies of labor and until every garment factory in Kansas City is unionized.

Above all, nevertheless, it was New York, with its "heavy" cloak and dress industries, that drew the most interest at the G.E.B. meeting. For, in our Union, the old slogan—as goes New York so goes the rest of the country—still holds, good.

And the accounts rendered on behalf of the New York Dress Joint Board by Vice-President Zimmerman and for the New York Cloak Joint Board by Vice-President Nagler had thrilled the executive group of the International with the information that, despite the staggering effect of the "worst season in a score of years," the Union was able to keep up a perfect machinery of control of the 35-hour week in all parts of the city. To illustrate the magnitude of the job handled by these two boards in New York, suffice it to say that not less than 5,280 shops, inside manufacturing and outside contracting, are controlled by the dress and cloak organizations in the metropolitan district.

The dressmakers' organization in New York is no more the transient union of old, alive one season and all but lifeless the next one. It has become a stable, powerful body commanding respect and fear in the industry. As a result of the stoppage of January, 1934, the Dress Joint Board has established bottom piece prices below which no employer is permitted to pay. The Union's chief concern now is to keep a vigilant eye over employers who attempt to cheat and to bring them to account. This chiseling is attempted by nearly every manufacturer and jobber, but, in the majority of cases, it is being detected with the aid of the large accounting staff of the Dress Joint Board and the money chiseled from the workers is being returned to them as pay restitution. In the past half year alone the Union was able to collect more than \$50,000 dollars in back pay, some individual workers receiving restitution as high as \$125.

In the cloak industry, it was the price settlement reform introduced in 1933—to come to terms of prices directly with jobbers and not with contractors as in the old piece-work days, that has given the Union a firm grip on control of prices and prevented disruption of labor costs in the market. On the whole, the trend in the cloak industry has been, since contractor limitation has been established with jobber responsibility for work conditions in contractor shops, for the gradual elimination of the contractor. In point of fact there are today 200 fewer cloak contractors in New York than only about a year ago.

Among the problems confronting the New York cloakmakers, besides the renewal of the collective agreements which expire practically at the same time the NRA comes to a termination nationally,

are the question of the dual system of labor—piece and week—practiced in the trade; the question of the big chain-store combinations which are attempting to make up their garments in bootleg non-union production sources, and also the settlement of the vexing controversy arising from the practice indulged in by a number of dress firms to manufacture coats and suits as "dresses" under lower work standards.

No less absorbing was the report from the Eastern "out-of-town" territory, the strip embracing Connecticut, Long Island and New Jersey cities, with its two score of locals and a membership of 25,000—a veritable "little International."

This little army of newcomers are no longer recruits in the International family. A year of service under the I.L.G.W.U. banner has given them valuable training and has strengthened a loyalty which was abundantly evident even during the earliest stages of their affiliation with our Union. During the Fall months, these newly-organized groups have proven further their mettle by adhering close to their locals despite the fact that their shops had hardly any work. Their anniversary meetings, attended literally by the entire membership of the "out-of-town" locals, were marked by an earnestness and a warmth that could not be excelled even by the veteran organizations of the Union.

In Canada

It was quite a happy thought which brought the General Executive Board last month, for the first time in eleven years, to Canada, and it was no less of a "break" for our Canadian organizations to have the executive body of the International meet in Montreal and Toronto.

In both these cities, we have today substantial cloakmaker organizations. Neither of them, however, has any dress union worth speaking of. In Montreal, there are thousands of women workers, most of them French-speaking Canadian natives, employed in silk and cotton dress shops. In Toronto, a conservative estimate places the number of unorganized in the silk and cotton dress and the underwear lines at 15,000. Winnipeg, far up in the north, also has a thriving women's wear industry.

It is clear, therefore, that Canada offers a big field for the I.L.G.W.U. It would be futile, however, to minimize the difficulties which lie in the way of effective organization in the Dominion.

It will be no easy task to convert the French-Canadian dressmakers in Montreal to trade unionism, especially after the dismal failure of the dual union's "strike" last Spring. In Toronto, the task of organizing the dressmakers will quite likely present an equally onerous job.

Having all this in mind and clearly determined to make haste slowly, the General Executive Board will, nevertheless, proceed with a steady organizing campaign in every branch of our industry in Canada. The drive will start with the cutters and pressers in Montreal and will gradually expand to other sections. And behind this campaign stands the full moral and material strength of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union. The workers are fully aware of this and the Canadian manufacturers will gradually be made to recognize the full weight of this fact.

The Biennial Elections

At Chicago, last June, our convention voted, practically without dissent, to supplant the present one-year election system of local officers by biennial elections.

There were sound reasons of organizational economy and good trade union policy behind that decision. The question, however, was raised in a number of locals whether officers elected prior to the 1934 convention should hold office for two years to conform to the technical meaning of that change in our election law. The interpretation put by the General Executive Board last month on this matter furnishes the answer:

Officers elected prior to the 1934 convention were elected for a one-year term, and this term is to expire at the end of that one year. In all such local unions, elections shall be held between now and April, 1935, to elect local administrations for a two-year term. Such a procedure will comply fully with the decision of the Chicago convention.

It should also be remembered that the convention empowered the General Executive Board to adjust all such discrepancies as might arise in locals in connection with this change to biennial elections as well as the timing of these local elections to make them simultaneous with election of convention delegates. In other words, it may take more than one year until this reform is made to work automatically and smoothly in all our organizations. This, clearly, will be the business of the General Executive Board.

The Fur Workers and Our Union

The plea of the fur workers for affiliation with the I.L.G.W.U. is arousing widespread and sympathetic interest because of the element of drama which that plea undoubtedly contains.

On the face of it, the fur industry, which today has become largely an accessory to the women's apparel trades, should be within the fold of the I.L.G.W.U. Historically, however, the Fur Workers' Union has led for more than a quarter of a century an independent existence, exerting a vital influence on work conditions and living standards of the masses employed in the fur industry. Within recent years, however, the Furriers' Union has been badly infected with the virus of dual unionism, which has split the old organization asunder. The terroristic tactics of the Communist-led faction in the New York fur market, in fact, have made it very difficult for the fur workers' organization to function as an effective trade union and threatened at times its very life.

Recently, nevertheless, the fur workers' organization has succeeded in reestablishing itself considerably in the fur market. It would seem, however, that the majority of its members have come to regard affiliation with the I.L.G.W.U. as the only permanent and sound solution for all their woes and tribulations. The fact that our Union has been generous in supporting them financially and morally for several years past is only strengthening this conviction among the fur workers.

Nevertheless, this question of the fur workers' affiliation is not as simple as it may appear on the surface. The decision of the General Executive Board to learn all the facts and data and to familiarize itself with the background of all major events in the fur industry for the past half dozen years before reaching a definite conclusion is, therefore, a wise one. Before it acts on this very important matter, the General Executive Board is entitled to a full picture of the furriers' situation.

Nagler Reports on Vice-President Nagler's I.F.C.W. Congress

graphic account of the situation of the organized garment workers in Europe, as he had observed it at the Congress of the International Federation of Clothing Workers in London, England, last August, supplied one of the most interesting hours at the G.E.B. meeting.

The tragic situation of the working class, as a whole, and of the workers of our own industry, in particular, in the Fascist-dominated countries—Austria, Germany, Italy, Hungary and several Balkan nationalities—was clearly manifested by the absence of delegates from those countries at the Congress. The eyes of the garment and clothing workers of the old world are today directed, Brother Nagler declared, towards America, from which they expect help and encouragement.

Blousemakers Seek Better Agreement

By Max Moskowitz
Manager, Local 75

The agreement between the House and Waist Makers' Union and the National House Manufacturers' Association expires on December 31, 1934. We expect that conferences on the renewal of the contract will begin shortly between our Union and the Association.

During the past year we have encountered a number of difficulties in the enforcement of our collective agreement. The contract, we believe, lacks a number of important provisions that would have to be embodied in our new agreement to make it a strong and efficient instrument for the maintenance of standards for the workers of the industry.

Right After the Strike

The agreement which is about to expire is weak and inadequate in many parts. Immediately prior to signing there was no labor organization of any kind in the blouse industry. Practically no information with regard to the number of workers employed in New York City or elsewhere, or the actual conditions prevailing in the factories where blouses are manufactured, such as wages, hours, etc., existed at that time. During the general strike of the dressmakers, some meagre information was obtained from a handful of blouse makers who had joined the dressmakers' strike, and that was hardly encouraging. The earnings and the hours in these blouse factories were about the same as in the non-union shops of the other miscellaneous trades. Later on, when our own general strike was called, we had compiled considerable data and information which, in a large measure, have confirmed our worst suspicions. We found that in the factories where the lower-price blouses were manufactured conditions were extremely bad, lower than in most of the smaller trades. The reason was not hard to find. While the white goods workers or the children's dress makers had no strong organizations, they still had unions which from time to time had written agreements with a portion of the employers in this industry and were to a considerable degree factors in preventing conditions from

being as bad as they were in the blouse industry.

Nearly 4,000 in Local 25 Now

Conditions, however, have changed in this industry beyond recognition. Right after the settlement of the general strike, the Union became a strong weapon in the hands of the workers for the betterment of working conditions. At the close of the strike we had organized 47 shops, employing approximately 1,200 members of our Union, in New York and nearby areas. We have since increased our membership to over 2,500 in New York, employed in 105 factories, and there are also about 1,500 blouse makers working in out-of-town organized union shops. We are going, therefore, into conferences with the employers now as an organized industry.

The effectiveness of our Union in this industry and its ability to maintain and improve standards and conditions for the blouse makers were equally established. Sufficient to say that our records show that in a comparatively small industry like ours 315,000 was collected for our members in back pay and fines imposed on employers for various violations of the agreement.

For a More Effective Contract

As to the omissions in our agreement, they are mostly measures for more effective control of the industry. The right of the Union to investigate the books and records of the manufacturers is so important whether or not the employers are living up to the provisions of the contracts has become a part of most agreements signed by the unions affiliated with our International. A like clause will have to be embodied and made part of our agreement, if we are to be potent in detecting violations. The necessity of an impartial machinery is also no more a debatable proposition in collective agreements. By now it is the accepted opinion that a collective agreement without the pro-

vision for an impartial chairman machinery is something incomplete. It is, therefore, quite evident that we shall have to provide for that in our next agreement.

As Skilled as Dressmakers

As to the wage scales incorporated in our agreement I wish to say the following: Our investigation discloses that a large portion of our membership is employed as blouse makers that sell from \$5 to \$15, which requires expert mechanics to produce. The skill and efficiency of these workers may be favorably compared at least with the workers of the average dress factories. It is admitted by even some blouse manufacturers that it does not require more "compensation" to produce a \$15 dress than a \$2.75 blouse.

The members of our Union, therefore, justly believe that the scale of wages for these workers should be on a par with the workers of the dress industry.

We are facing the renewal of our agreement with no anxiety. For we know, from the daily contact we have with our members, that in case of need the entire membership will rally around the Union. We can say the same with as much emphasis about the workers outside of New York, who never will forget that it was due to the Union that their working hours were reduced to 35 hours and their earnings were increased manifold.

JUSTICE

A Labor Magazine published monthly by the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union

Office of Publication: 125 West 42nd Street, New York, N. Y.
General Office: 230 West 42nd Street, New York, N. Y.
Subscription price, paid in advance, \$1.00 per year

DAVID DUBINSKY, President
ANDREW J. KATZ, Secretary-Treasurer
J. A. S. DUBINSKY, Editor

Subscription price, paid in advance, \$1.00 per year

Entered as Second-Class matter, August 1, 1908 at Post Office at Jersey City, N. J., as follows: Second-Class Matter, Post Office at Jersey City, N. J., for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized on January 25, 1928.

Vol. XVI, No. 12, December, 1934



INTERNATIONAL LADIES GARMENT WORKERS' UNION
- I L G W U -

125 WEST 42ND STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y.

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The Schlesinger-Sigman Memorial Library Being Built at Duarte, Cal., by I. L. G. W. U.

Week with the G.E.B. in Canada

These bi-city meetings of the General Board may be a boon and a prize to the organization in the cities concerned. They are anything but ease and comfort to the Board members and the staff.

Take, for instance, that quarterly meeting of the G. E. B. last week in Canada. We had been seven days away from New York and out of this week we spent no less than three nights in railway travel, a whole of a rate, I might add. Kick or no kick, however, it would seem that this "kill-two-birds-with-one-meeting" practice is coming to stay. Last March we had it in St. Louis and Kansas City; last month it was Montreal and Toronto, and from the looks of it, should we ever make it in the Middle West in the none too distant future, it might be Chicago and our newly-acquired 100 percent town—Milwaukee.

Reports, reports, reports.

The first three days of the meeting are devoted almost exclusively to accounts, mostly of them oral, by the vice-presidents.

To "Justice" readers, who follow carefully reports from I. L. G. W. U. centers, as they regularly appear in our publication, there is little news in these accounts presented by the G. E. B. members. The report which arrests attention, however, is the review by the President, usually rendered extemporaneously from jottings on a few note sheets carelessly lying in front of him. President Dubinsky's somewhat manages not to trespass in his reports on the individual accounts of his sections. Yet, there is in his survey of the general situation enough coverage to make it genuinely informative and easy to listen to.

Philip Kramer, G. E. B. member for Good House, reports poor season, yet organization in his report. Entire staff helped for many weeks textile workers in strike, covering Lawrence, Lowell, Salem, Fall River, and other points. While on that job, his associates had managed to penetrate a big knitting mill in Lowell and force the local union there. There are fine organized prospects throughout New England, including thousands of cotton garment, underwear, corset

By M. D. D.

and knitwear workers still to be unionized. Quite recently he has helped to organize, with the sanction of President Dubinsky, a New England Needles Trades Council, talking in millinery workers, furriers, Amalgamated and United Garment Workers, for joint organizing activity. Will this Council live, or work? Well, time will answer this.

Elías Rehsberg, from Philadelphia, reviews steady progress in organizing cotton garment shops in his district. The silk dress shops in Eastern Pennsylvania have already been fully unionized. The Fall season is much below normal, yet the Union succeeded in raising wages substantially for the blouse and silk dress workers and for the cotton garment people as well. Rehsberg emphasizes that, while the cotton garment minimum is \$13 a week, the workers in union shops earn from \$18 to \$25.

He also reports widespread educational work in his "province." George Rubin, another Philadelphia Board member, covering the cloak industry of that city, reports, on the other hand, a pretty good Fall season and adequate code enforcement. He mentions that his organization has gone over the top in its allotted quota for the Anti-Fascist Fund.

Morris Biallo—Chicago I.L.G.W.U. leader—reports a medium-quality cloak season. They still have no collective agreement in the cloak trade, but he has for some time, yet the cloakmakers do not seem to mind it, though he expects no trouble in forthcoming paydays for renewal. Dress Fall season was good in spots only. Relations with cloak employers are rather well balanced. A strong vigilance committee, some members of which are deputized by Code Authority with full power, controls observance of work conditions. They are now getting ready to confer with cotton garment manufacturers, and should these confabs fail, there will be a strike in the Chicago cotton garment shops. Biallo also reports good organizations in Dec-

tur, Elgin, Ill. and in Fort Wayne, Ind. There is a spectacular strike of railroad workers going on right now in Racine, Wis. in the plant of the Chicago Rubber Company. Entire city appears to be participating in the scrap, helping the workers to win battle. There is some hope for peace in sight.

Abraham W. Katorsky, of Cleveland, follows. The collective agreement with the Cleveland association is still not completed, but conferences with employers, with Newton D. Baker acting as arbitrator, are soon expected. They are making strenuous efforts to make inroads in the knitted goods industry, one of the largest in that city, and are also tackling cotton garment shops. Union activity in the non-union Printers-Bindersman factory is making headway and real pressure for agreement with that firm is not far off. There is lively work going on in Cincinnati, where twelve hundred people have already been organized.

Harry Wander, chief of the Eastern "Out-of-Town" department, tells of his territory, of the large and loyal members in the Connecticut, New Jersey and Long Island towns and of their determined resistance to every attempt to lower their work standards. The territory of which he has charge is nearly all unionized and the former trend toward opening non-union cloak shops in that district is definitely waning.

Next comes Tom Moore, president of the two-division Trades Union Congress, was invited to come to the session by President Dubinsky. Moore is a polished, good convincing speaker, and for a half hour speaks of the situation of labor unionism in Canada. He reveals before the G. E. B. a clear-cut picture of the fight the Trades Congress has to wage daily against the three other groups which are trying to win Canadian workers away from the legitimate international trade union movement—the All-Canadian nationalist group, the French-Canadian Catholic unions, and the rather puny Communist-led "Industrial Union." Moore speaks of the forthcoming campaigns of the I.L.G.W.U. among the dressmakers



The General Executive Board at Montreal Meeting.

of Canada and promises earnest support and cooperation. He is followed by Labor Alderman Joseph Shubert, an old friend of the cloakmakers' union of Montreal and its former secretary, who pleads for unionization of the thousands of French-speaking unorganized dressmakers of his city employed at starvation wages and unbelievably long hours.

One after another report Harry Greenberg, of the miscellaneous Local 81 of New York, describing the remarkable growth of his organization; Rose Peotita, who spent nearly three months in Puerto Rico helping to organize the frightfully underpaid and overworked needle workers on that island now transferred to the jurisdiction of the I.L.G.W.U. To these hundred thousand workers, our Union has become a deliverer and a factor of tremendous importance in their lives. On the initiative of the International a vast educational activity has now been undertaken in Puerto Rico among the workers. Miss Peotita adds that Vice-President Zimmerman also visited Puerto Rico in September and addressed numerous meetings there. Vice-President Kreindler, in charge of the Baltimore market, then gives an account of his organization in the cloak, dress and cotton garment shops, recording steady progress in the past few months.

The afternoon is taken up by President Dubinsky's survey, which covers in an intimate way the condition of every trade, city and market. Generally, the leader of the I.L.G.W.U. concludes, the situation of our

Union, notwithstanding the still unfavorable industrial conditions the country over, is not bad and our organizational morale as well as our numerical strength is holding well. He outlines several campaigns that will have to be waged, specifically in the cotton garment industry, and expresses hope for material achievements along that line.

The third day of the meeting was devoted to a review of the dress situation by Charles Zimmerman, who in the absence of Julius Hochman has been acting as manager of the Dress Joint Board, and Luigi Antolini, secretary-manager of Local 18. Both gave a graphic description of the marvelous growth of the dressmakers' organization and its rise to a position of control of work conditions in New York's greatest single industry. Zimmerman also described the ambitious educational program launched by Local 22, consisting of eight section schools, one central school, sixty classes and clubs, a mandolin group, three choirs—English, Spanish and Negro—a brass band, theatre parties, trips to museums, dances and entertainments for all districts and athletic activities with gym work which has a registration of 1,200 members. Zimmerman also mentioned that Local 22 purchased a bed in Deborah Sanatorium and is trying to contact with hospitals for rendering greater service to members.

The meeting opened in the morning with President Dubinsky's financial statement, which brought out the fact that notwithstanding an un-

satisfactory season, the financial standing of the I.L.G.W.U. has not been impaired and that it continues to make progress in that direction. Within the past six months, the General Office was able to pay off seventy thousand dollars more of its old debts and expects soon to be rid of them entirely. Vice-President Samuel Peimutter, of the New York cutters, reported for his organization a membership in excess of 8,500, very active and achieving material benefits despite hardships of short seasons and efforts of employers, in the dress industry in particular, to chisel on workers.

There was no afternoon session that day as the Montreal Joint Council play a host to the G. E. B. and took them out in automobiles for a sightseeing trip. Before the session adjourned, a committee of 25 dress cutters who belong to an independent cutters' union, appeared before the G. E. B. and pleaded to be admitted as a branch, or separate local, in the I.L.G.W.U. It appears that the group, which at one time held nearly all the 100 dress cutters of Montreal, had been misled by trickery to join the dress strike which the Communist-led industrial union had called about half a year ago, and when that strike was lost a few days after it was called, sixty of the cutters who walked out, lost their jobs and the rest had to return on the terms of the bosses. This plot of treachery has by now sobered by all the dress cutters and they are eager to be admitted into the I.L.G.W.U.

Before the session came to a close

President Dubinsky announced that organizing campaigns in the corset and brassiere trade will be launched in Worcester, Mass., Bridgeport, Conn., Newark, N. J., and Chicago, Ill.

Night hundred cloakmakers filled Auditorium Hall on Ontario Street at 5:30 that afternoon, and listened for two hours to speeches by President Dubinsky and Vice-Presidents Rose Pesotta, Isidore Nagler, Charles Zimmerman, Luigi Antonini, Joseph Breslaw and Morris Sigan. It was one of the largest cloakmaking meetings held in Montreal in a good many years and the workers enthusiastically responded to the appeal of the leaders of their Union to guard and preserve their newly-built organization and to lend all possible aid in the work of organizing the thousands of dressmakers in Montreal who the I.L.G.W.U. is about to undertake. Bernard Shapiro, International representative in Montreal, presided.

Later in the evening more than 300 members of the Montreal locals attended a banquet in the Beth David Community House in honor of the G. E. R., given by the Montreal Joint Council.

On the fourth and last day for Montreal action, the Board considered among other questions the subject of amalgamation of all needle trades unions referred to it by the Chicago convention. It was voted to appoint a committee of seven to draw up a plan concerning such an amalgamation and to bring it to next meeting of the G. E. R. Vice-Presidents Nagler, Breslaw, Levy, Reisberg, Antonini, Greenberg and Zimmerman were appointed as the committee.

A large group of dress pressers who lost their jobs after their strike was abandoned by the Communist-led industrial union last Spring, appeared and pleaded with the G. E. R. to organize their craft in the coming general drive in the Montreal dress industry.

Benjamin Kaplan and Breslaw Zuckerman, representing Local 1, cloak operators of New York, and S. Nelson, of Local 17, came as committee to present their views in connection with the merger of these two locals which was approved by the Chicago convention.

Joseph Schlesberg, secretary-treasurer of the A. C. W. of America, who was on union business in Montreal and was invited to attend the meeting of the G. E. R., received a warm welcome as he congratulated the I.L.G.W.U. on its phenomenal growth. "Though you have gone far ahead of us in numbers and other achievements," Schlesberg said, "we entertain no jealousy with regard to you as we consider you part of our general movement and we rejoice together with you in your progress. Dubinsky's election to vice-presidency in the American Federation of Labor is not merely a tribute to his personal ability. Twenty-five years ago, your president, regardless of his qualities, could not have been elected member of the Executive Council of the A. F. of L. It is the advance your masses and our masses have made in this period that has made this result possible."

That evening, November 22, the Board left Montreal for Toronto to wind up its meeting in that city over the next two days.

The fifth day of the meeting, in King Edward Hotel, in Toronto, opened with a statement by Vice-President Nagler on the cloak industry situation of New York and the problems facing the workers' organization in it. (A detailed reference may be found on the editorial page of this issue). Nagler's report was followed by brief surveys by Vice-

Presidents Levy, of Local 1, and Breslaw, of Local 35, who reported that both organizations were in fine material and spiritual condition. Vice-President Nicholas Kirsman reported on Local 9, the New York cloak finishers and tailors, stating that the local has now been completely restored to normalcy and is functioning like a healthy trade union. Recently, the finishers levied an assessment of \$5 per member to improve their financial affairs.

The G. E. R. further considered the Chicago convention decision calling for Biennial elections. (Decision on editorial page.) It voted to start organizing activity in the large Montreal dress industry, and to begin this campaign with the cutters, proceeding afterwards to pressers and extending gradually to all the crafts in the trade.

The Board voted to carry out the decision of the Chicago convention and to erect in the Los Angeles tuberculosis sanatorium a beautiful library in memory of both late presidents, Benjamin Schlesinger and Morris Sigan. The plans for this library were received by the G. E. R. during the meeting and were approved. Work on this library will begin at once and funds will be raised with the participation of all the locals.

The final session of the meeting took up the morning of Saturday, November 24.

From the Pacific Coast came, and was read to the Board, an encouraging report from Vice-President Israel Feinberg describing organizing and educational activity in Los Angeles, San Francisco and Portland, Ore. The next session will witness a concentrated effort to organize the unorganized portion of the dress industry in Los Angeles, the blouse and skirt industry in that city and also in San Francisco. A union of Sec. Feinberg wrote, was opened in the Chinese quarter in San Francisco and a group of Chinese workers is now making an earnest attempt to organize the women's garment workers in the oriental quarter. From Kansas City came an account, submitted by Meyer Perstein, of intense fighting against diabolical efforts of a powerful group of open-shop and company-union employers in the silk and cotton garment shops who are receding to vio-

lence and intimidation to drive out union activity from that city. The Union, nevertheless, is going ahead with its campaign.

The Needle Trades Workers' Union of Puerto Rico, with which the I.L.G.W.U. has been co-operating for the past six months and which has been generously supported by it, forwarded to the meeting of the G. E. R. a resolution of thanks for this loyal support of the submerged Puerto Rico needle workers, especially for the visit of Vice-President Rose Pesotta, who spent several months on that island helping to organize the local dress and underwear workers.

The G. E. R. received a letter from the Polish Tailors' Union from Warsaw headquarters, describing the plight of the thousands of clothing and garment workers in Poland and the valiant fight they were putting up for the preservation of their organization. It was voted to refer this letter to the finance committee for instructions to give them some aid.

Among the other things decided upon was the formation of a training school for organizers, and Vice-Presidents Hochman, Nagler and Zimmerman were appointed on a committee to carry out this plan. It was also reported that the work of rebuilding Unity House, the main building of which was destroyed by fire last August, has already begun with plans calling for construction of a magnificent "daylight" dining pavilion with a seating capacity of 1,000, and several new cottages, drawn up by the well-known modernistic architect, Leosax.

Before adjourning, the G. E. R. voted to instruct the General Office it was voted to grant separate charters to the dress cutters and dress pressers of Philadelphia, and also to give the silk dressmakers a separate charter from the cotton dressmakers of that city.

After a committee from the Toronto Joint Board headed by Harry Langer and Samuel Kraisman, appealed to the G. E. R. for further organizing support, it was voted to instruct the General Office to give them such aid and to render them further assistance until the Spring season is over and the agreement with the local employers is consummated. The G. E. R. expressed satisfaction with the present greatly improved condition of the Toronto cloak organization. The Board also

voted to grant a separate local charter to the cloak finishers of Toronto.

With regard to the complaint of Local 1, New York cloak operators, affecting price settlements in some shops under the control of Local 17, the G. E. R. decided to inform the New York Cloak Joint Board to carry out the decision of the Chicago convention with reference to shops making adult or regular garments and allotted to Local 17, namely, that no separate settlements of prices in any instance be made by Local 17 in such shops but that settlements be made by a joint settlement committee of the two operator locals under supervision of the Joint Board in both week-work and piece-work cases.

An interesting "proletarian" banquet, which consisted of herring, bread, salami and beer, was served by the Toronto Joint Board on Friday, November 23, in honor of the G. E. R. meeting, at their headquarters, 346 Spadina Avenue, and was attended by 200 members and guests of the Union. The evening was spent in an unusually fine comradely atmosphere and the speeches by President Dubinsky and several Vice-presidents were received with loud cheers and militant labor songs.

On Saturday afternoon, the Joint Board held a mass meeting in the Labor Lyceum hall, at which, in addition to President Dubinsky, Vice-Presidents Levy, Katsoray, Kramer, Perlmuter, Greenberg, Nagler and Dr. Hoffman spoke. Harry Langer presided.

Before adjourning, the G. E. R. voted to instruct the General Office

to place, within a month, a general director in full charge of the educational work of the I.L.G.W.U. A telegram of felicitation was sent by President Dubinsky, in the name of the G. E. R., to John Green, leader of the Independent Labor Party in Winnipeg, Manitoba, upon his election as mayor of that city, the third largest in Canada.

"I.L.G.W.U. FOR DEMOCRACY"

"It must be a prosperous labor union which can afford to donate the sum of \$50,000 to help liberate European workers 'from the thrall of fascism.' That is the amount which the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union pledged the other night at a New York meeting called by the Central Trades and Labor Council."

For an American labor organization to take up the cause of democracy in Europe is not going so far afield as may appear at first sight. The enemies of the democratic idea come from two opposite quarters. Salvation by dictatorship is preached by the Communist Red as well as by Fascist White, and the Red variety has long been a very real problem for American labor organizations. The flourishing International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union was nearly wrecked "a dozen years ago by Communist bidders from within. It survived the crisis and has evidently won back to its former prosperity. (Topic of the Times, New York Times, Oct. 28, 1934.)



In the Center: Albert Pellack, injured in Picketing Superior Cloak Co. factory, at Guelph, Ont.



Carrying Union Colors in Puerto Rico.

New York Dressmakers' Section »»

In and Around Local No. 22

By N. M. Minkoff

Our Last Section Meetings

The regular section meetings of our local were held on Thursday evening, November 22. The attendance of the Bronx, Brownsville and Boro Park meetings was satisfactory. The other branches did not do as well. There is still a marked absence of orderly procedure and discipline at our meetings, with the result that new members become quickly disappointed with the manner in which meetings are being conducted. Their reactions are highly unfavorable and become the topic of conversation the following morning when they meet their fellow-workers. The efforts which the administration is constantly making to have these meetings better attended are thus being frustrated.

A New Member's Comment

A new member, who attended one

of our last Thursday's section meetings for the first time, inquired of the writer as to why the Executive Committee's report is not thoroughly discussed and voted upon by the members. At the particular meeting which he attended, a motion to approve the entire report of the Executive Board had been hastily made; immediately thereafter it was read; the discussion which followed had absolutely no connection at all with the report of the Executive Board. "I have no axe to grind," this member said to us. "I belong to no group; I am just a plain member of the Union and I want to know what is going on in the organization and what is being planned for the next session. I had some suggestions to offer, but I never got a chance to say what I wanted to because of the continual bickering, points of order, appeals, etc., etc."

If it were possible to limit the discussion at these meetings to a critical analysis of the reports submitted, the administrative body of the Union would then know to what extent its decisions are meeting with

the approval or disapproval of the members. It would also give many new members who are not accustomed to the platform an opportunity to offer some suggestions or criticisms on Union policy. It would be well for the active members in the various sections to give heed to this problem. We cannot relax our present strength, much less make further progress, unless we draw into activity the great masses of many jobbers, this is a serious matter and those who have the organization's interest at heart are beginning to see it in that light.

Report of The Executive Board

(A) Distribution of Money Collected from the Jobbers.

In the Executive Board's report, there was a partial list of the shops which benefited by the monies recently collected from many jobbers as underpayments in wages. Reference to those collections was made in the last two issues of "Justice." For the benefit of those of our members who were not present at the meetings, we list below the names, addresses, etc., of such shops.

Contractors	Amount	Distribution to Workers
Workers	From	to
M. Engelman	4,547.00	42 5.25 19.00
L. & L. Dress	1,247.76	24 54.25 94.25
Kane's Frocks	216.63	6 25.00
Elmhorst & Dress	454.97	25 11.25 19.00
Shapiro Dress	113.64	10 5.00 14.00
Flower Dress	2,730.74	87 3.00 120.00
J. & P. Dress	492.03	35 8.00 19.00
Fancy Dress	461.13	62 1.25 24.25
Shindler Dress	140.00	37 3.25 4.00
Flax Line	486.98	26 10.25 25.00
Benson Dress	598.19	35 1.50 38.00
D. Flanagan	195.00	34 8.00
Rosen Dress	141.75	18 4.00 30.00
Oriel Dress	79.81	3 20.00
Cusick & Fardo	1,199.13	30 8.00 97.00
K. & A. Dress	318.81	32 10.00 20.00
Boutay Dress	495.71	22 7.00 28.00
A. & E. Dress	390.97	40 not yet distributed
G. Fardo	870.32	38 10.00 30.00
Sophy Frock	828.03	31 15.00
Alta Skirt & Dress	450.00	19 10.00 40.00
M. Elias	407.68	30 12.00 30.00
Raymond Dress	284.48	24 10.00 12.40
Gerry Dress	360.40	30 10.00 13.00
Hyman & Son	301.14	35 10.00 12.00
Wickoff Dress	492.21	36 12.00
a lot of Town Dress	4,766.48	340

A. B. C. Dress <td>829.15</td> <td>27 12.00 33.00</td>	829.15	27 12.00 33.00
B. R. E. Dress <td>554.39</td> <td>20 16.00 26.00</td>	554.39	20 16.00 26.00
Dorothy Dress <td>118.84</td> <td>26 3.00 3.50</td>	118.84	26 3.00 3.50
War Frocks <td>98.35</td> <td>16 1.50</td>	98.35	16 1.50
Rena, Frocks <td>195.46</td> <td>23 6.00 10.00</td>	195.46	23 6.00 10.00
Be Eth Dress <td>1,272.15</td> <td>52 2.00 54.00</td>	1,272.15	52 2.00 54.00
Schindler Dress <td>469.58</td> <td>37 5.00 40.00</td>	469.58	37 5.00 40.00
Out-of-Town (S. Arm) <td>2,141.73</td> <td>120</td>	2,141.73	120
Lorna Dress <td>435.35</td> <td>15 25.00</td>	435.35	15 25.00
Eisen Bros. <td>75.74</td> <td>6 4.00 10.00</td>	75.74	6 4.00 10.00
Sanjo Dress <td>892.34</td> <td>39 6.00 24.00</td>	892.34	39 6.00 24.00
Out-of-Town (S. Arm) <td>1,243.69</td> <td>67 5.75 19.00</td>	1,243.69	67 5.75 19.00
Inside Shop <td>35.07</td> <td>15</td>	35.07	15
Three Star Dress <td>454.55</td> <td>56 5.50 8.75</td>	454.55	56 5.50 8.75
Stylcraft Dress <td>59.25</td> <td>30</td>	59.25	30
Julie Dress <td>497.11</td> <td>66</td>	497.11	66
Out-of-Town (S. Arm) <td>1,055.05</td> <td>45 23.40</td>	1,055.05	45 23.40
Inside Shop <td>185.90</td> <td>18 7.50 14.50</td>	185.90	18 7.50 14.50
Panama Dress <td>1,342.35</td> <td>39 14.00 125.00</td>	1,342.35	39 14.00 125.00
Victory Dress <td>41.31</td> <td>41 1.00</td>	41.31	41 1.00
Dolores Dress <td>347.40</td> <td>36 7.30 11.60</td>	347.40	36 7.30 11.60
Star Garment <td>60.00</td> <td>3 20.00</td>	60.00	3 20.00
Quality Dress <td>60.00</td> <td>3 20.00</td>	60.00	3 20.00
Le Rose Dress <td>796.47</td> <td>19 8.00 80.00</td>	796.47	19 8.00 80.00
Fountain, In <td>275.69</td> <td>30</td>	275.69	30
Jarvis Dress <td>909.21</td> <td>34 1.80 94.00</td>	909.21	34 1.80 94.00
Ethos Dress <td>196.94</td> <td>34 4.00 12.00</td>	196.94	34 4.00 12.00
Double Star <td>125.00</td> <td>14 8.00</td>	125.00	14 8.00

		each	from	to		Workers	from	to
		each				Workers		
A. Uchida	1,002.88	28	5.00	60.00	Prieda Dress	.....	8.95	(shop not working)
R. Schulz	1,190.97	26	15.00	80.00	Out-of-Town (S. Arm)	1,742.03	216	
Schulz Dress	472.82	17	12.00	33.00	Samaga Dress	.....	18.94	11 5.63
Janzer Dress	173.38		pending		Best Made Dress	.....	23.50	.....
S. & M. Dress	89.30		pending		Nudeal	.....	37.89	.....
Inside Shop	1,000.00	10	35.00	outcry	L. & H. Dress	.....	28.23	.....
J. Scarulla	419.62	18	Marion Office		St. Belle	.....	37.90	(shop not working)
J. Del Aquila	737.24	21	"		Schneider Dress	.....	53.95	25 Wmshoff Office
Cammetti	105.58	17	11.00		Out-of-Town (S. Arm)	.....	51.51	40 Bronx Office
Capetti	69.40	30	11.00		Wmshoff Dress	.....	24.72	15 1.96
Loriner Dress	463.19	20	Wmshoff Office		Kennore Dress	.....	27.42	20 5.00 20.00
L. Valenti	404.03	18	"		Harris Sportswear	.....	24.46	17 5.00 12.00
Capital Dress	51.80	30	11.00		David Rosenberg	.....	21.75	7 4.00 7.00
Acc Dress	25.31	10	11.00		C. Rosenberg	.....	36.75	20 5.35
J. Tashiro	292.90	7	11.00	Brux Office	Wilson Dress	.....	18.34	19 2.35 2.83
Out-of-Town (S. Arm)	2,545.96	254	12.75		Sural Dress	.....	10.96	12 6.45 12.80
R. & U. Dress	355.87	34	12.75		Wmshoff Dress	.....	10.68	30 12.52
Reinhold Dress	22.75	20	12.75		Maria Rotta	.....	10.18	(shop not working)
Venus Dress	377.33	22	5.00 19.00		E. Cammetti & R.	.....	37.45	19 4.50
Wmshoff Dress	322.38	28	Brooklyn Office		Fred Trigo	.....	47.23	36 9.64
M. Gutish	345.13	37	8.10 23.00		Out-of-Town (S. Arm)	.....	28.69	141
R. & L. Dress	461.20	40	12.03		Out-of-Town (S. Arm)	.....	28.69	141

It should be noted that about 3,500 workers participated in the distribution of these collections. Not all the money collected has, as yet, been distributed owing to the fact that the office encountered difficulties in locating the workers to whom payments were due.

(B) Activities of the Educational Department.

A comprehensive report of the activities of our Educational Department, including the number of schools, students, number and type of classes, and the social and cultural activities, was submitted to the sections. This report was enthusiastically received by our members. Will Herberg, director of our Educational Department, is making excellent headway in his efforts to place our educational department activities on a mass-movement scale. The rank and file, as well as the officers of our Union, are "going to school." A special lecture class in Industrial and Social Problems is being conducted for the staff.

(C) City College Expulsions.

The Executive Committee's report also included a statement on the position taken by our Union with reference to the expulsion of twenty-one students from City College. These students are mostly children of working-class parents. We could not consistently collect money for the struggle against Fascism and Nazism without coming to the support of the students who have been expelled from college because they protested

against Fascist propaganda in our City College.

(D) Assistance to the Elevator Service Employees.

Reference was made in the last issue of "Justice" to the assistance which our Union rendered the Building Service Employees' International Union, Local 318. We quote below excerpts from the letter written to Brother Zimmerman by President Bambrick of the Building Service Employees' Union:

"Dear Brother Zimmerman:
"Your personal intervention in the strike of the elevator operators was a most decided factor in bringing about an agreement be-

tween our Union and the Real Estate owners. I would be a fool if I did not recognize that if it were not for you the strike might have been a failure. The nature of the strike implied at the outset that we must have allies. Allies that could not only furnish us with immediate assistance, but whose rank and file were sufficiently educated to recognize that labor must clasp hands in order to advance forward mutually.

"Fraternally yours,
"James J. Bambrick,
"President."

This letter calls for no comment from us.



Central School Class in American History, Local 22

The Harlem English-Speaking Branch

Our English-speaking Harlem section was successful in having Frank R. Crosswath, the well-known Negro socialist orator and at present a special organizer of our International, as its speaker at the meeting held November 8 and 22. Those who were present at both the last meetings spent a very enjoyable and instructive time and all of us are deeply indebted to Brother Crosswath for his eloquent and highly inspiring addresses.

Grand International Ball—January 19, 1935

Arrangements are being made for a grand concert and ball, to be held in the Rockland Palace, 155th Street and Eighth Avenue, on Saturday evening, January 19, 1935. Arrangements are now in progress for a nationally prominent dance orchestra. Some of Broadway's best known talent will appear (on the concert program). A nominal admission charge—within reach of every member of our local—will be made. Tickets are on sale at the offices of the Union. Keep this date open. Make no other arrangements for Saturday, Jan. 19.

Spring Season Not Far Distant

This is, nominally, the height of the slack season in the dress industry. Fortunately, there is still some work to be had on the party line dresses. The cheaper lines, too, have shown some activity during the past week. With the settlement of the dress mill strike, which is anticipated any day, there will be some work on the Palm Beach line.

Under the present uncertain industrial conditions, it is difficult to forecast the proximity of the approaching Spring season. Even the professional trade publications hesitate to venture an opinion on the subject. Whatever the case may be, we hope that the season is not far distant and that the great mass of dressmakers will soon start working on a full-time basis, and when they do, they will insist upon the absolute enforcement of the minimum wage scales and the observance of all other important clauses of our agreement.

Our Relief Fund

Hundreds of ill and financially embarrassed members of Local 22 are being aided by our Relief Fund. At the present writing, no less than 100 members are receiving weekly checks. The weekly benefit is of great help to those in distress. We are pleased to announce that the Relief Committee authorized the endorsement of a bid in the Deborah Sanatorium. Unfortunate members of our local, afflicted with the dreaded disease of tuberculosis, will not have to wait their turn to enter the institution. The endorsement of a bid will facilitate their admission to this institution.

At a conference called by the Relief Committee and attended by Dr. George M. Price, the director of the Union Health Center, and Miss Pauline Newman, of its publicity and educational staff, the question of contacting the social service departments of several of the city hospitals was discussed at length. We are in hopes of being able to effect some sort of workable arrangement whereby the members of our Union who are unfortunate enough to have to apply to a hospital will receive a little better attention.

A card containing the following 10 rules was recently mailed to our members:

1. All members with the exception of those whose cards are stamped "non-beneficial" and who have paid at least 6 months' dues, are eligible for benefit.
2. Maximum sick benefit—10 weeks at \$7.00.
3. First week benefit paid on the 10th day; thereafter every 7th day.
4. Tuberculosis benefit is paid in sums of between \$150.00 and \$250.00.
5. Chronic diseases and "women's diseases" are not eligible for benefit.
6. When ill, report in person or by mail to the office. Do not fail to turn in your membership card.
7. We recognize medical certificates signed only by the physicians of the Union Health Center.
8. Benefits are not paid for past sicknesses.
9. Members are eligible for 2 free medical examinations a year.
10. ONLY GOOD STANDING MEMBERS

BERS are entitled to the above mentioned benefits. If you owe for more than 3 months you are not in good standing.

Do Not Lapse Your Membership

Once more, the attention of our members is called to the fact that those who are in arrears for over 29 weeks' dues become automatically suspended. No dues are accepted from such members regardless of the amount they may wish to pay. The office cannot and will not refuse to accept the payment of one stamp a week from a member. In fact, we encourage weekly payment of dues, but if the member is in arrears with more than 29 weeks' dues, cannot accept dues even if he were to pay the full amount of his arrears. Payments from such members are accepted only in the form of initiation fee. As new members, they must appear before the membership committee, pass the medical examination and pay up all their arrears, plus a new initiation fee.

Sign Your Name on Your Membership Card

No membership card is valid unless it bears the name of the owner, written on the front cover. This is absolutely necessary for the protection of the individual member. Sign your name today.

MACHINISTS CALL FOR AID

President Arthur O. Wharton, of the International Association of Machinists, has notified President David Dubinsky that the members of Lodge 1456 of the I. A. of M. have gone on strike against the firm of Consolidated Sewing Machine and Supply Co., 1115 Broadway, New York City.

He asks the cooperation of all members of the I. O. of W. U. in the district to the extent of using their influence to prevent non-union sewing machine adjusters from performing the repair work in their factories. The strike was called because the association to which the Consolidated firm belongs refused to recognize collective bargaining regardless of the advice of the New York Regional Labor Board that the majority of men employed by them belong to the I. A. of M.

Paragraphic Reflections . . .

By Philip Kapp
Secretary-Treasurer
Dressmakers' Joint Board

At the time of penning these paragraphs, there is momentarily a partial suspension of activities in the Dress Joint Board.

The Spring season has not begun and the dressmakers, in the hundreds, gather daily in the spacious lobbies of the Joint Board and carry lively discussions on trade questions. Upstream in their minds, of course, is the approaching season. And, indeed, work is the only thing that matters.

The past Winter season was rather brief and there is, therefore, some reason for being apprehensive. However, we are optimistic. It is only when the question of "fullness" is being read, some of the dress shops will be operating in full swing. From those that are in the know, we obtain information that the dress market expects a busy season. Amen.

In the meantime, our business "men, having some spare time, do in neglect their education. They attend classes in public speaking and trade unionism and take courses in the Unit System. The business agent of today realizes the importance of being well-informed on subjects relative to trade union activities. His educational interests also include social problems, in general, which, in one way or another, are bound to exert an influence on the labor union. Through Brother Joe Hochman's article on the Unit System, which appeared in an earlier issue of "Justice," we were told that the Union is attempting to supplant the hi-fano-ma method of settling prices on dresses by a scientific method based on careful study and research.

At this time, we are still in the preparatory stages. Needless to say, when the Unit System will be finally applied, a great many difficulties attending the settlement of dresses will be remedied. So, to return to the subject with the daily routine of adjusting shop conditions, supervising shop meetings

and studying the Unit System, he has his hands full.

The dressmakers' union turned over \$25,000 to President Dubinsky, their share toward the \$40,000 Anti-Nazi Fund. This would have been impossible without the magnificent response of the dressmakers. It is not the first time (nor the last) that the dressmakers are called upon to contribute to a cause.

It is particularly gratifying, however, that at a time when money is scarce with the dressmakers, quarters, halves and dollars have come rolling in. And everyone participated: Italians, Jews, Spaniards, Negroes, Slaves and Germans. Our workers realize that the Nazi ogre threatens to devour our civilization and throw us into a darkness unprecedented in the history of man. Let Nazi reaction take heed.

The American workers will do everything within their reach to help their German brethren to build a new trade-union movement—from UNBROKEN UP! For this splendid showing, our business agents and shop chairmen may well be proud; their cooperation with the office of the Secretary-Treasurer was really encouraging. We raise our voice in gratitude.

It seems that peace is something to be desired but not always achieved. The National Association of Manufacturers is in a state of "Style Piracy." Manufacturers producing 10.75 and 12.75 garments are gathering forces against those turning out garments priced \$4.75, \$7.75, and below.

The "aristocrats" in the Association complain that, so sooner does their \$12.75 model parade down the street, than the \$7.75 dress comes down the street. An identical copy of her more expensive sister. Now, that is not fair, they charge. "Should we employ designers, pay them big salaries, so that garments below the \$12.75 level may be kept in latest fashion?" Such is the cry of the manufacturer of the high-priced garment. This, of course, is their right. But, it seems to this writer that at some future time we

may be drawn in to take a hand in the situation.

From the Dress Code Authority, we learn that: between January and June, the dress market produced \$6,000,000 dresses of which 65 percent belong to the \$7.75 level and 75 percent to the \$4.75 and 17 percent to the prices ranging from \$1.75 upward. A logical question arises: Will this situation in any wise affect the major number of our dressmakers employed in the dress shops manufacturing garments below the \$7.75 level? At this moment, we have neither the space nor the inclination to speculate on this question. However, it's something to think about.

I SIT AT MY MACHINE AND DREAM . . .

By Ysaye Hansen

Bowed, I sit at my machine and dream.
The wheels hum and whir; and I, Unmindful, of it all, dream of a world.
So unlike our own, where pearls and apples
And wheat and corn and grain are not
Thrown upon the winds to grow
Only with decay.
And my children's cheeks turn wan and hunched.
With want of milk and eggs; and all things good
For their infant bodies. And my love, their mother,
Becomes furrowed and optimally gray
With pinching pennies.
Tears of unrest and protest crowd my eyes;
My heart aches with determined anger
To join my brethren in their sacred struggle
To build a new life—yes, a new deal
Where there shall be no wealth
And there shall be no poverty.
In my dream, I stretch my arms
Miles long
To embrace all workers; to build
them all within.
With strenuous, unbridled and purposeful hands, I shall unquell
To build, build, build a world of
Lovefulness and Beauty and peace.

Local 22 Reports 1500 Students, 45 Classes

Probably the most ambitious and far-reaching program of labor education ever attempted by a local union in this country is now being successfully realized by the educational department of Dressmakers' Union, Local 22, I.L.G.W.U., according to the recent report of Will Herberg, educational director of the local. The accomplishments of the dressmakers' organization in this field, after less than a year of existence of its educational department, shows what can be done by a union that seriously sets out to educate its members and to provide them with opportunities for social and cultural expression.

With six weeks of the Fall season done, a survey of Local 22's educational activities shows that there are 45 classes held weekly in eight Section Union Schools, located in various parts of the city, and one Central Union School at the Union headquarters. The total enrollment in these classes is more than 1,500. An unprecedented figure in the field of trade union education. Classes in elementary and advanced English are most numerous—twenty-two in all. Then come the classes in Principles of Unionism, totalling twelve. The other classes are distributed as follows: two history classes, two classes in the structure and functioning of the union, three in public speaking, and one each in the history of American literature, social science and economics.

Class Attendance On the Increase

The enthusiasm of the dressmaker students in these classes and the interest manifested by them are most encouraging. Instead of showing the usual slump, attendance is holding up very well, in fact, is constantly increasing. In school after school additional classes have had to be added upon insistent request of the members. Indeed, the demands of the dressmakers upon the educational department are fast becoming so big as to tax its resources.

But the class room is only one of the aspects of the educational work of Local 22. Aiming to provide the members with open channels for the expression of their cultural, recreational and social interests, the educational department has devel-

By Will Herberg

oped a broad program of activities in this field. Twenty such groups are functioning today, with hundreds of Union members enrolled. Four mandolin groups, including an orchestra, a beginners' class, a mandolin solo group and an art ensemble, are firmly established under the general supervision of Luigi Paparella. Three choruses, a general chorus, a Spanish chorus and a Harlem chorus, are entering their second month of existence, each with its own leader but all under the general supervision of the famous director, Lazar Weiner. The Union Brass Band is now nearly a year old and has already performed at a number of affairs. Five gym groups and seven swimming classes have been opened with over a thousand registrations. Preparations are now complete for the establishment of one or more dramatic groups. And these are only a beginning.

Sixty Groups in Weekly Sessions

There are thus over sixty educational groups holding sessions weekly under the direction of the educational department. A large staff of 38 teachers for the classes, two

mandolin directors, three chorus leaders, four gym and swimming teachers and a band leader, 38 in all, conduct these groups. Regular meetings of these teachers are held and a special English teachers' conference has been set up.

In the months of October and November, a number of cultural and recreational tours for Union members were arranged, under the direction of an experienced guide, David M. Rosal. On October 27, a very successful theatre party took place for the play, "Steverson," and this was preceded by a lecture on "The Negro in American Life and Drama." Several hundred dressmakers had seen the play on free tickets supplied by the educational department. On November 24, a similar party was arranged for the play, "Judgment Day."

On November 10, an organizer group, under the direction of David M. Rosal, made a tour of the Museum of Natural History. On December 1, a group of the children of Union members were taken for a tour of the International Children's Art Exhibit at Rockefeller Center. For December 8, another tour is being organized for the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Museums and exhibition tours are free. The theatre parties are at greatly reduced rates. Plans are now being

completed to have one such event every Saturday afternoon.

The Spanish Fall

The first social affair of the Fall season was the Grand International Fall given by the Spanish Section of Local 22, on November 3. It was a tremendous success, with well over 1,500 people present. There was a very good program and the spirit was splendid. The best of times was had by all who were lucky enough to be present. An even larger affair is being planned by the Harlem Section for January 28.

A good beginning has been made in arranging educational programs for the regular Union meetings. At a recent meeting of the Spanish Section, which was very well attended, Vice-Presidents Rose Pottolita and Charles S. Zimmerman spoke on conditions in Puerto Rico, from which they had just returned. The impression created by their remarks was very deep and the educational value very great.

On November 15 and 22, the Harlem Section meetings were addressed by Frank Crosswath, the first on "The Negro Shapes His Future" and the second on "The Modern Meaning of Liberty." The meetings were well attended, with more present than at any time previously.

It is intended to extend these educational meetings to other sections.

Elementary Material Used

Systematic attempts to reach the entire membership of the local, with simple educational material explaining to them their rights and duties as Union members and bringing to them an understanding of the elementary principles of unionism, have also been made. Two cards in the series, "Know Your Union," have been issued in English and Spanish in tens of thousands of copies, the first listing "ten commandments for Union members" and the second providing information on the Union's sick benefit fund. A large number of pamphlets dealing with the elements of unionism and the problems of the labor movement were distributed among the dressmakers, including pamphlets issued by the local as well as those published by the International Educational department.

In recording these facts, it is surely necessary to call attention to the cooperation and assistance received by Local 22's educational department from the educational department of the I.L.G.W.U. In particular, from Fannie M. Cohn, its secretary, and Louis Schaffer, supervising the cultural and recreational activities. Without this aid

many of the things accomplished would not have been possible.

In spite of this gratifying success with which its educational program has been realized, Local 22 regards it merely as the first step in the right direction, so to speak. Plans are being worked out now so that in future advance the educational work of the Union will not only extend to wider fields and more varied activities but will embrace many more thousands of workers in its scope.

PROTEST! EXPULSION OF CITY COLLEGE STUDENTS

A vigorous protest against the expulsion of two thousand students from the College of the City of New York for participating in a recent anti-Fascist demonstration, was voiced in a telegram sent to Mayor La Guardia by Charles E. Zimmerman, in the name of the New York Dressmakers' Union, an organization embracing over 50,000 workers.

The telegram follows:

"To name of sixty thousand dressmakers organized in its ranks, Joint Board of Dressmakers' Union of International Ladies Garment Workers Union vigorously protests against outrageous expulsion of twenty-one students from the College of the City of New York and suspension of thirteen others. These students have been justly punished for manifesting opposition to Fascism which has crushed popular liberty, outlawed labor unions and degraded culture and education. New York demonstration, which Dear Gottschalk declares was spontaneous, students should have been publicly commended and not driven out of college. Action of college authorities and provocative conduct of President Robinson can be interpreted only as unabashed support of Fascism. We appeal to you as Mayor of City of New York to take immediate action in reinstating suspended and expelled students in affecting the removal of Frederick B. Robinson as president of C.C.N.Y. and in stopping spread of Fascist propaganda in city's educational system."



A Class in the Bronx School.



Class in Trade Union, Local 22

Local 89 Celebrants Fill Mad. Sq. Garden

Twenty-three thousand members of Local 89, Italian Dressmakers' Union, filled the huge Madison Square Garden on Wednesday night, November 8, to commemorate the fifteenth anniversary of the existence of their organization.

Twenty-three thousand—most of them young people barely out of their teens, yet already for several years little cogs in the industrial machine, each of them part and parcel of New York's largest single trade, the making of dresses.

Young People Predominate

There is the enthusiasm of youth—a holiday spirit merriment vibrant from the topmost gallery to the deepest recesses of the orchestra. It is an exuberant mass which loves to give expression to its feelings and emotions with as little restraint as possible.

The meeting is electrified by a marvelous musical program in which such stars of the concert firmament as: the boy violin prodigy, Ruggerio Ricci; Rudy Vallee; Giuseppe Radaella, tenor, and Bruna Castagna, mezzo-soprano; the last two of the Cosmopolitan Opera Company, are taking part. Eighty voices from the Metropolitan Opera House Chorus are on the platform throughout the evening, accompanying operatic singing and rendering songs as a group. Luigi Antonini, General Manager of Local 89 and First Vice-President of the I. L. G. W. U., was chairman, and he was introduced in an impressive and eloquent speech by Arturo Giovannitti, well-known Italian poet and writer, who, together with Serafino Romualdi of the I. L. G. W. U. staff, edited and prepared the book, "Pass o Rose?" ("Bread and Roses"), a souvenir journal dedicated to the fifteenth anniversary of Local 89.

Among those who spoke and were cordially greeted by the huge audience were David Dubinsky, President of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union; Norman Thomas, who presided at the assembly in the name of the Socialist Party, and Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia, who came to the celebration together with Mrs. LaGuardia and spoke in Italian. The Mayor was wildly applauded by an audience which was

all the more grateful to him for the use of a language which to most of them was native.

Modigliani Gets Great Ovation

The most enthusiastic moment of the evening, however, was provided by the appearance on the platform of the veteran Italian Socialist and anti-Fascist leader, Giuseppe Emanuele Modigliani, whom the arrangements committee of Local 89 had succeeded in bringing over from Paris especially for this anniversary occasion. The entire audience rose when Modigliani, together with the Metropolitan chorus, began singing Filippo Turati's famous labor song, "Inno del Lavoratore."

Tonight's meeting proved to me that the Italian people have not gone off on the road to Fascism, as is being alleged. Tonight's meeting proved to me that Italy is still a land of freedom—of labor freedom, though of a freedom obtained and suppressed. The sight of the thousands of workers assembled here proves to me that the Italian people still some day will arise to fight for justice and freedom for themselves and for the rest of the world.

"Yes, I am proud of the Italian people which has produced such a noble mass of conscious, fighting workers. I am proud of the Italian Union, Local 89, which could arrange such a glorious meeting."

Sees No Fascist Threat Here

In speaking of America, Modigliani said that the "New Deal," which President Roosevelt is trying to enact into American economic and political life, is not, as some people think, a form of Fascism.

"Fascism can have no substance and is no threat in any country where people can assemble and talk as freely as we do here tonight. If the workers of America will have powerful organizations and a strong union, the 'New Deal' can and should lead from political liberty to economic liberty—to Socialism."

The concert was followed by dancing, which lasted until the small hours of the morning. A big orchestra, under the leadership of Roger Wolfe Kahn, Paul Whiteman, George Hall and Leon Bolasco, supplied the dance music. The concert program and the speeches were broadcast through Station WEVD.



Upper Row: President Dubinsky, Giuseppe Modigliani, Mma. Modigliani.
Lower Row: Morris & Nevik, Luigi Antonini.

I. L. G. W. Bares Dual Union 'Peace Scheme'

A Statement by President David Dubinsky

foster the aims of their own clique.

The I. L. G. W. U. received, a few weeks ago, while I was in attendance at the convention of the A. F. of L. in San Francisco, a communication from the Communist-led dual union, inviting us to confer with them on terms of taking over their "dress department."

The I. L. G. W. U. is inclined to consider this move as one of the many similar maneuvers enacted by the Communist-led dual union within the past several years, with the single exception that this time they had publicity, even before this communication was forwarded to us, admitting that all their former "united fronts," "impartial" committees of "fifty" and "100," and such other spurious devices as were used by them in the interests of the promotion of "peace," were anything but "impartial." Today, it has become clear—that we have considered during that crucial period, to maintain a work force in their shops, their so-called "impartial" committee, together with the dual union, were openly scabbing against the I. L. G. W. U. by entering into shady deals with employers which would allow cloakmakers to work by the piece.

Sincerity Open To Doubt

We, however, are as little inclined to trust them today, when they vehemently assert their sincerity, as in former years. Fortunately, their demagoguery and trickery have not succeeded in misleading our organization and our members in the past and, we are confident, will have no influence upon them in the future.

When the I. L. G. W. U. appealed to the workers in our industry in 1925 and 1929 for unity and for the upbuilding of a single union and when the doors of our Union were thrown wide open to receive all workers, irrespective of political opinion and faith, the Communists would hear of no peace. They still had hopes at that time of capturing and eventually destroying our International Union, and carried on open warfare against us. They functioned openly as a strike-breaking organization; they were daily attempting to terrorize cloakmakers and dressmakers, to hamper by violence the normal activities of our organization and to

the mass of workers in our industry. Even in 1925 and 1929, when we issued the appeal for unity, we directed it to the workers and not to the ring-leaders of the dual union. Our attitude, before and since then, has remained uniformly consistent, that all workers in an industry must belong to one union.

In their recent communication, they still evince no intention of giving up their dual union. They still keep on defending their strike-breaking dual unionism as a policy and a principle. They are, nevertheless, they say, willing to give up their "dress department" with the handful of members which it contains with terms and conditions attached to their proposal.

Same Old Abuse and Slander

We wish, therefore, to declare that we regard their present peace-making as instances, hypocritical and brazen a move as all their former attempts were. In one and the same breath, they speak in their communication of the "great victory and the tremendous organized power of the workers' concentration in the I. L. G. W. U." as if they had anything to do with that, and but a few lines later assail the "leaders of the International, nationally as well as locally, who have failed to organize the military wing of the dressmakers and lead the 'peace' in determined resistance to the so-called 'drive'." The latter, in its entirety, is studded with attacks upon the I. L. G. W. U. and adorned with common Communist abuse and slander.

The representatives of the dual union as, for instance: "More than a year ago, the dual union, in our strike of 1932 as a result of which the dressmakers succeeded in considerably improving their working conditions and in organizing in greater numbers than ever before."

These strikes, as everybody knows, were victorious, not because of the Communists of the dual union, but in spite of them. For, it is common knowledge that in New York, in Philadelphia, in Boston and in nearly every other place where our Union called last year upon the workers to join in the campaign for

shorter hours and better work conditions. It was the Industrial Union which declared competition strikes against us; which declared our strikes as "fake" strikes; which spread inventions that the settlements with the employers were already in the vest pockets of our officers; that the dressmakers and the cloakmakers had been "sold" before the strike was called—and the dual union in many instances tried to make false settlements with a few petty swastepshop employers under the worst terms possible, all for the sake of demoralizing our ranks and creating dissension among our strikers.

Wreckers, Not Builders

It was these great strikes of the dressmakers and of the cloakmakers and of workers in the other crafts of our industry, under the leadership of the I.L.G.W.U., which finally sent crashing to the ground the already tottering structure of the dual unions and did away with their hopes ever to acquire an influence over the masses of the workers in our trades. These demagogues, who place political party advantage far above the consideration of workers' interests, indeed have never been able to organize even a single section of our industry. They could only spend money as, instead of demoralizing, break down work conditions and indirectly, thereby, serve the interests of the employers.

It was these great strikes which our dressmakers had carried out, long before the San Francisco strike saw the "Tulio" and Minneapolis strikes—just as the dual unions would have it, that the militancy of our workers was awakened after these strikes—it was our preparedness, our strategy and the self-sacrifice and fighting spirit of our masses, which won the Minneapolis organization of tens of thousands of hitherto unorganized workers all over the land. It was our policy of working with the code authorities which made possible the winning of a shorter work day, of higher pay and of more humane workstandards for us. It was this successful policy, which was endorsed by our Chicago convention, representing the 200,000 members of our organization; it was this successful strike movement which is compelling the lead-

ers of the dual unions to come forth with an abortive scheme of a dual union in the needle trades without a dress department; it is this policy that will be continued and should receive the support of all the workers in the women's garment industry, of those who are already affiliated with our Union and those who wish to become members of it.

We declare openly that our Union will not fight the NRA because this or that political party may have decreed it. Our Union will work with the spirit of the NRA as long as it can serve the interests of the workers. We shall oppose the NRA only then when it will become an instrument against the workers and for the employers.

Furthermore, with habitual insolence the "revolutionary" prattlers declare in their communication that: "the dress bosses have joined the vicious open shoppers of other industries in a drive to reduce the living standards and smash the organized power of the workers." It may be worthwhile recalling that when the dual union bill had, a few years ago, some agreements with a baker's dozen of swastepshop employers, they used to regard these employers as honorable gentlemen. At that time, when the workers in the dress industry were unorganized and helpless and our Union issued a call for unity, in the eyes of the dual unions, was not an important issue. Today, however, when their tent is falling apart like a house of cards and when, on the other hand, the power of the organized dressmakers, under the banner of the I.L.G.W.U., is strong enough properly to resist the employers' greed and to maintain labor standards in the shops—then, the dual unions, are shedding crocodile tears over the fact that the dress employers have of a sudden become "vicious open shoppers." Now that our Union is strong and influential, we reiterate what we stated in our decision of April, 1933, at a time when our organization was small and weak:

Local Workers Welcome

"The I.L.G.W.U. as part of the American labor movement, is now, as it has been through its history, for one union in the ladies' garment industry and against dual unionism. We have

always combatted every act and every movement which aimed at splitting our ranks on the economic field."

"Our Union does not bar the way to any worker employed in the women's garment industry to become a member of the organization. This is conclusively proved by the fact that, on many occasions, such as 1928 and 1929, we opened wide the doors of our Union even to such persons who had been openly in action against the I.L.G.W.U., upon their pledge that they would comply with the laws and decisions of the Union."

Dressmakers who desire to join our organization and who will pledge to abide by the laws and decisions of the International, who will serve loyally our Union and will sever their connections entirely with the Industrial Union, are welcome to the I.L.G.W.U. They will be received and considered as regular members, without discrimination on account of opinions, principles or party affiliations. We have in our Union followers of all faiths and tendencies; all we demand from our members is that they serve faithfully the interests of their fellow-members and the interests of the organization as a whole.

No Brokers Wanted

In a few of the dress locals, the books, owing to the surplus of workers in the trade, are partly closed. Yet, regardless of the fact that many of us consider this present move as merely a maneuver on the part of the Communistic union, the dress locals will place no difficulty in the way of dressmakers who have heretofore been outside our ranks and who now desire to join our Union. Even such locals as those of the cutters and pressers, who have initiated the Communistic union on account of the above-referred surplus of labor in the industry, will make considerable concessions for applicants of their crafts.

To conclude: The dressmakers who have until now still remained outside the framework of our Union may now join its ranks on the same terms as all the other thousands who had become alienated from it years ago and had later joined it, without the benefit of go-betweens or Communist brokers.

• • Bulletin of Educational Activities • •

Facts -- Items -- Notices

The following activities are being carried on by locals of the International in New York and the Eastern territory in cooperation with the educational and recreational staffs of the General Office:

Sports

Local 10 (New York)
Basketball
Indoor Baseball
Handball
Gymnastics
Swimming
Soccer
Local 23 (New York)
5 Gym Groups
8 Swim Groups
Local 60 (New York)
Swimming
Gymnastics
Local 91 (New York)
Basketball
Swimming
Dress Jt. Bd. (New York)
Basketball
Gymnastics
Local 143 (Mt. Vernon)
Soccer
Local 145 (Passaic)
Basketball
Gymnastics
Local 145 (Union City)
Soccer
Gymnastics
Local 150 (So. River)
Basketball
Swimming
Choral
Local 10 (New York)
Male Chorus

Local 22 (New York)
Negro Chorus
Spanish Chorus
General Chorus
Local 50 (New York)
Negro Chorus
General Chorus
Local 51 (New York)
General Chorus
Jt. Council Kt. Gds. (Bklyn.)
General Chorus
Local 145 (Passaic)
General Chorus
Local 150 (So. River)
General Chorus

Mandolin

Local 22 (New York)
Puerto Rican Group
5 General Groups
Local 91 (New York)
General Groups
Jt. Council Kt. Gds. (Bklyn.)
General Groups
Local 145 (Passaic)
General Group
Local 145 (Union City)
General Group
Drama
Local 20 (New York)
Local 91 (New York)
Local 145 (Passaic)
Local 150 (So. River)
Jt. Council Kt. Gds. (Bklyn.)

WIN A PRIZE—FOR A ONE- ACT PLAY

Fifteen handsome prizes will go to writers of one-act plays. The contest is open only to members of the Union.
First Prize (one) Two weeks at Unity House.
Second prizes (four) One week at Unity House.
Third prizes (ten) A week end at Unity House.

The contest closes Feb. 1.

Mail manuscripts to:

DRAMATIC CONTEST

DEPARTMENT

I. L. G. W. U.

3 West 146th Street, New York

DO YOU WANT TO KNOW

about the
Swimming, Basketball, Handball,
Soccer, Baseball

Groups of the International?
About the drama, violin, and mandolin groups?

All Free for Members
of the Union.

Then write to:

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

I. L. G. W. U.

3 West 146th Street, New York

Pamphlets

The four pamphlets, "Introducing Your Union," "How to Conduct A Union Meeting," and "The Structure and Function of the I.L.G.W.U.," appear in very impressive-looking booklets. They are being used as material for discussion groups.

Our plays, "All for One" and "In Union There Is Strength," which now appear in pamphlet form, can be obtained through our educational department.

Educational Program for Officers

The articles, "Workers' Education" and "Labor Leadership," found a response among our officers. Many of them still remember the successful course we conducted on Friday afternoon for officers. These classes will be resumed shortly.

We are glad to note that the educational department of Local 22 started a similar educational program for the officers of the New York Joint Board of the Dressmakers' Union.

Educational Departments in Other Centers

Our Chicago educational department, under the direction of Esther Terry, is conducting a successful educational, recreational and social program. Our members there are taking advantage of the opportunities offered them in this direction.

Our Joint Board of Dressmakers of Philadelphia, has put into operation an effective educational program under the direction of Miss Marie Elliott. On Saturday, December 8, they will celebrate the opening of their educational season. Our I. L. G. W. U. members from New York, our mandolin orchestra from Union City and our trio from Passaic will provide the program. We are sure that our members will respond enthusiastically to the activities.

We are glad to announce that our St. Louis-Joint Board has engaged an educational director, Miss Mae

Green. We are in communication with her regarding a program and have already provided her with necessary material for study groups. We are certain that our splendid group of active members there will cooperate and assure the success of our educational activities.

The Coast Also Gets in Line

San Francisco is on the map, too. Our Vice-President Rose Pasotta pioneered in that part of the country with an educational program. We are glad to announce that our old friend and comrade, Jennie Mathys, is our educational director there. Sister Mathys was a very active member in the dressmakers' union of New York and actively participated in our educational activities. This experience will be very helpful to her in conducting an educational program on the Coast.

Although we have been conducting an educational program for our dressmakers' union in Newark for some time, the celebration of the educational season took place on Saturday evening, December 1, the program being provided by our own talent.

In Connecticut we have arranged to conduct forums for our members in our various locals during the month of December. The program will consist of a lecture by Henry Jager and a song recital by Maxim Brody.

Sociables

Our members who attend our swimming and dancing classes at the Textile High School, New York, have decided to hold a sociable, before the school closes for the Christmas holidays, on Tuesday evening, December 18. A committee was appointed to take care of all the necessary arrangements.

So the influence and inspiration of our Educational Department are being felt throughout the country. The response from our members is marvelous. This is best demonstrated by the many letters that we receive from officers and active members and from our educational directors. All of them come to our department for advice and inspiration. We equally welcome their suggestions.

Training Schools

Since the re-birth of our International, we have been occupied in giving a new orientation to our members, an understanding of their new position as organized workers. Hundreds of them who are already on the executive board and price committees have benefited by the program of our educational department and we are doing our best in further enlightening them.

Many of them have developed ability for leadership. The time has now come to give these members a more thorough training through

which they will be better qualified to assume leadership and responsibility.

We, therefore, welcome the decision of the G.E.B. to establish a training center for organizers. Our International has pioneered in many activities and this will be one more important field.

CROSSSWAITH AND GIOVANNITI OPEN FOR LECTURES

The General Office announced that Frank R. Crossswaith and Arturo Giovanniiti are available for lectures and similar educational work.

Bro. Crossswaith has devoted many years to the battles of labor on every front and has demonstrated his ability and loyalty to the ideals of the trade union movement. He is an outstanding teacher and speaker among the Negro masses.

Arturo Giovanniiti was connected with the I. L. G. W. U. as well as with the Amalgamated Clothing Workers for years as a writer and lecturer. He is an excellent speaker both in English and in Italian. His present function is to stimulate educational activity among the Italian workers.

Local committees may call upon the General Office for arrangements to assign either for their organizations.

CHAIRMAN THANKED

Whereas we, the workers of the Nelda Cloak Co., 539 Eighth Ave., wish to express our deep appreciation to our shop chairman, Brother Tony Malissa, for the wonderful service he has rendered to the employees in our shop, for his equal division of work among all the crafts working in the shop, a task which was never accomplished in this shop before.

Be it resolved, that we present him with a gold wrist watch and wish him and his family lots of luck. We hope he will continue to do his good work for the workers of the shop in the future as he has done in the past.

Louis Weiss, Local 35; Harry Levine, Local 35; H. Newman, Local 17; L. Geller, Local 9; J. Slater, Local 19.



The Union Health Center at Work

By Pauline M. Newman

The interest of our members and their families in their physical well-being, as evidenced at the Union Health Center, is significant. It is also a great satisfaction to those of us who are charged with the task of giving them the best service possible. Hundreds of men, women and children come here daily. They come for examinations—"Just to check up on myself," as one business agent remarked. They come here for advice, for treatment and for various tests. They know that they can get here what they need without getting into debt. They know that when they come to the Union Health Center they come to their own institution—to red tape and so charity. The tremendous increase of I. L. G. W. U. patients is due in no small measure to the expansion and improvement in the services rendered.

Special Clinics for Treatment of Arthritis and Asthma Because so many of our members suffer from arthritis, rheumatism and asthma, we have established these two additional clinics with specialists in charge. The ethics of the medical profession do not allow us to mention the names of these specialists. But those afflicted with the above-mentioned ailments can be assured that we have secured a very prominent medical authority for the arthritis clinic. He has written several books on the subject. He is chief of the physiotherapeutic department in one of the foremost hospitals in this city and is director of similar departments in other hospitals. The arthritis clinic is held every Thursday from 3 to 5 P. M. The asthma clinic is held on Wednesdays from 5 to 6:30 in the evening.

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Hours for General Examinations Extended

Hereafter, we have had physicians from 11 noon to 2 P. M. and from 5 to 6:30 P. M. When someone needed a doctor at two o'clock, or at three, he had to wait until five. This, however, is all changed. There are doctors here from 11:30 A. M. until 6:30 P. M. No need for waiting any longer. No need for traveling back and forth. Anyone who wishes to see a doctor can be taken care of during the hours mentioned above.

Women's Clinics The number of women patients has increased to so large an extent that we now have five women physicians on our staff. One of them, the readers of "Justice" will be interested to know, is the daughter of our late beloved Comrade Meyer London. The others are connected with the foremost hospitals in the city and are giving excellent service to our women members. In this connection it is worth noting that reluctance to be examined and treated by women physicians is disappearing. Time there was when a woman physician was not the most popular member of a medical staff—in spite of her knowledge and experience. But today women, as a group, with some exceptions, of course, prefer to see a woman physician.

Increase in All Clinics All our clinics are busy. Our eye department is having six instead of two sessions a week. Our kidney and related illnesses clinic has had to have two specialists instead of one to take care of the large number of patients. The laboratory technician is working all day long, whereas heretofore there was not enough work for one full-time person. The X-ray, the Electrocardiograph, the Basal Metabolism machines are almost in constant use. If there is such a thing as "luxury" in illness, our members are certainly getting it at the Union Health Center.

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Publicity and Education

Local No. 12 heads the list in making the Union Health Center known to its thousands of members. They, in 1933, cooperation of Brothers Elman and Minkoff, Local No. 12 has sent out 30,000 circulars to its members, 5,000 letters to the shop chairmen; posters and special announcements are advising members and their families to make use of the facilities of the Union Health Center. If all other locals of the I. L. G. W. U. would follow the example of Local No. 12, we would soon have to move into larger quarters. Locals No. 91 and No. 32 are also cooperating. Others will soon follow, I know.

The Press

Our own press has been most generous. "Justice," "Gerechtigkeit," "Glosteria," "Our Aim," have been and are carrying articles and news of the Union Health Center. But that is not all. "The Forward" carried a long article on "The Health Department of the International." "The American Federationist" carried a lengthy article on the educational value of our institution. The molders, machinists, textile, upholsterers' and other labor journals have published our story. President Grover of the American Federation of Labor writes: "I am very pleased and glad to have for my records your very interesting and encouraging report you make of the use of the Union Health Center by the organizations of labor."

Social Service Department

Some day, when space will permit, I should like to publish the stories which are told to me in connection with our Social Service Department. These stories would illustrate clearly the inadequacy of our present system in providing care to those who are in need of it, and how great is the need for a hospital and a sanatorium of our own. For the present we are doing all that we can for those who come to us. Depending, as we must, on outside agencies, it is not always easy to secure the place desired. Perhaps, after all, it will not be long before the I. L. G. W. U. will add to its Union Health Center a hospital and a convalescent home as well.



Class of Colored Members of Local 90, Dress Pressers



... Making Dresses in Sunny South ...

"Where The Earth Is the Blackest and The People Are The Whitest"

So, I am in the South—in Texas—a state I have never visited before. It was really a thrill, upon awakening in the morning, to find the southern sun shining through the windows of the train which carried me to Dallas. We passed through towns and villages; a sign in one of the towns winked at me, greeted me—"Welcome to Our City. We Have the Blackest Ground and the Whitest People." I began to watch the ground and I saw it was really different from what I am used to: it is black as coal—miles and hundreds of miles of flat black ground. The cotton harvest was over, but the grass on the ground was still green, the sun was shining and the ground was black. There were two cotton fields—the famous cotton fields of the South.

Meeting With The Dallas Group

As the train was rolling along I saw cabins—where people live—just as I had never seen before, and still I felt that somewhere in my imagination I had seen a cabin of this type. I tried to remember where I saw it; finally, I recalled that it was "Uncle Tom's Cabin." Many years have passed since I have read that book—conditions have changed. Still, when I looked at some of those cabins, it seemed to me that I saw "Uncle Tom's" cabin shining through the window.

I landed in Dallas; I met the girls here. Last year, with the birth of the New Deal, a group of dress-makers was also born in Dallas, Texas. The International was busy in other centers and could not give this new-born union the attention that was necessary, and it dwindled until only the officers remained—the membership was lost. Several of our people have visited Dallas but seemed not to have the time to do what was necessary, but with all the discouragements the officers of the local have stood loyally by their guns and have constantly reminded the International not to forget them. At my first meeting with this group I was so deeply impressed by their loyalty and willingness to hold on

By Meyer Perlstein
General Organizer, I.L.G.W.U.

to the little they have that I came to the conclusion that the time had come when our International Union must give these people the attention which they are justly entitled.

Dallas, Texas, seems to be a very well established center for silk as well as cotton dresses; there are also underwear and informal factories, but the dress industry predominates. It is the better silk dress that is made here. \$1.75 is the cheapest silk dress that is being produced; \$10.50 and \$15.50 are the leading market articles in this industry. Most of the manufacturers seem to be very prosperous—most of them were able to reap an exceptional profit from the articles they produced.

Good Work; Low Pay

The dress operators here are exceptionally good mechanics and the prices are exceptionally low in comparison with the prices paid for making the same dress in other centers of the country. Sixty to seventy-five cents is the price paid here for the making of the \$10 to \$15 dress, while the wages of the workers run from \$14.00 up to \$20.00 per week.

A good many of these manufacturers have forgotten that a code is in existence, and the code enforcement officer here seems to have forgotten what he was stationed here for. So, all in all, the manufacturers had a golden opportunity of reaping the wonderful harvest.

As far as the conditions of the workers are concerned, you can imagine what they are. They work piece-work and no operator ever knows the price of a dress until she gets her "pay slip." If an operator is more productive, the price for her work less than the girl who is less productive. By looking over the pay slips of some of the operators, I found that where one girl was getting 60 cents for the making of a certain style of dress, another was getting 75 cents for the same style

of dress. The reason for this is that the manufacturers do not want any of the operators in their shop to be able to earn more than the so-called minimum provided for by the code. So, as soon as a girl makes more dresses, her price is cut in order to keep her at that rate, while, when a girl makes a few dresses less, the rate goes up in order to bring her up to the minimum wage scale. This, naturally, refers only to shops where the code scale is more or less observed—in other shops conditions are still worse.

Most of the operators are of the medium and speedy grade because the slowest ones are let out of the shops completely. We must realize that the general code scale for the South is very low—the claim of the manufacturer was always that the southern people are not entitled to the same wage scale as the northern because they are less productive, and in order to substantiate and prove that contention they try to keep the workers at a low level of earning.

The "Less Productive" Claim

By the way, when it comes to the argument that the southern people are less productive, it is peculiar that in every section of the country I have visited, rarely I have heard the same argument. The manufacturers in Texas claim that the people here are less productive because the climate is too hot. Manufacturers in Minneapolis claim that they are entitled to a lower wage scale because the climate there is too cold, and the operators in St. Louis claim that they are entitled to a lower wage scale because the climate is too mild in the winter and too hot in the summer. I find that this argument is being given everywhere, though it is not based on any real facts, and I am sure the people here are as productive as any other people in the country and if given an opportunity could produce and earn as much. I am sure that if any New York operator got the same price for making a dress as a Texas operator got, he or she would not be able to earn

more than the Dallas operators do. The same applies to cutters and other workers.

Here in Dallas I find a good number of women cutters—cutters who do chipping as well as marking—and a good many of them are good pattern drawers. Their wages run from \$14.00 up to \$15.50 or \$16.00 per week. In one of the leading shops here, the majority of the cutters are women, including the pattern drawers and markers. These women are doing very well. It is one of the most efficient shops in the city. We are now organizing the first cutters' local in Texas.

Labor Anthem in Lone Star State

I have established permanent headquarters here and we have begun our organization campaign. I have selected one of our Kansas City members, a lady by the name of Leah Olive, who was stationed here, to do the organization work, and with the help of the officers of the United Textile Workers, we are getting good results already. Circulars and leaflets are floated around the shops, calling on the workers to organize and to improve their conditions, and they are responding to the call. There are a good number of American-born Mexican girls working in the trade who are also responding to the call of the organization. We have this week organized the first singing quartet here and I actually felt emotional when I heard for the first time in this Lone Star State the tunes of the International Textile Workers singing the South. There were about twenty-five girls who held the song books in their hands and everybody who passed by where the office is located was wondering what had happened to this quiet, conservative city, and why a group of women sang so loudly and so beautifully such strange words and such strange airs.

There has been a great celebration here—the girls opening their new headquarters—and a few hundred people participated in the event.

Parleys, or Strike, Which?

During my stay here I have had a short talk with a leading silk manufacturer in this city, and a worker

one of the leading employers may be held early next week. There are possibilities that we may be able to come to an agreement with these manufacturers without any trouble. There is also a possibility that we may be compelled to stop off the industry here, and that would be a real sensation. Dallas, Texas, has not had any strikes for more than eighteen years. A good many of the girls as well as the good many of the men in the city are wondering what a strike looks like. They have heard of strikes—they have read in newspapers about them—but most of them have never seen one.

In general, it is a real thrill to be in this part of the country at this time of the year. While the mornings and evenings are cool, the days are pleasantly warm.

The street cars here made a special impression upon me—the special seats which are reserved in the cars for the Negroes. Naturally, I had known about this, but knowing it was a strange thing, seeing it with your own eyes is something else. I visited the Mexican quarters—they call it "Little Mexico"—God Almighty! Now they live! There is no comparison between their living quarters and the Negro quarters, where the Mexicans have no special seats in the street cars—they are considered white people and have the status of white people—still, their standard of living is much lower than that of the Negroes—impossible, shabby quarters, where many families live in one room, without any sanitation whatever—barefooted men, women and children—places dirty, uncleaned for years—blocks and blocks of these so-called "living quarters"—these quarters are really holes for rats, where human beings live and suffer.

I intend to visit San Antonio this week, which is three hundred and fifty miles from here. There are large cotton dress factories in that city. Most of the workers in San Antonio are of Mexican origin. Will write you from there.

San Antonio and The Mexican Border Towns

"La Cucaracha"—the tunes of this beautiful Mexican song greeted me at San Antonio—I passed through the hay market where the farmers of this section come together

to sell their hay and other products. It is a large market place in the center of the city, surrounded by open air dining tables where Mexicans sit and eat their dishes while the street guitar-players—many of them blind, most of them barefooted—surround each automobile or taxi that passes by and ask if they can play and sing for you. My taxi had stopped because the cars in front of me had stopped to listen to these songs, and for a quarter I had an orchestra near me of many voices and many guitars playing the "La Cucaracha" and other Spanish and Mexican songs. It was really a fine welcome—a music is beautiful and they play and sing it so well.

About one-third of the population of San Antonio is Mexican and the city has adopted a complete Mexican atmosphere which makes it so different from the other American cities. The architecture, the streets, the buildings—the atmosphere is so colorful that it works like a spell on a stranger. There are silk as well as cotton dress shops in this city. There are about one thousand people employed in these shops. It is a large center for infants', children's and misses' dresses. Most of the firms that make these infants' dresses are New Yorkers, and some of them have these dresses cut in New York and the bundles shipped to San Antonio and other Mexican border towns to have them made up. Most of these dresses are hand-made and are the work of the Mexicans; in the factories as well as in the home. There is one firm, the Javelin Garment Company, a New York concern with headquarters in San Antonio, which sup-



plise this work not only to San Antonio Mexican workers but also to other cities like Laredo and El Paso, Texas, where hundreds and thousands of Mexican women sweat in the shops and in their homes, to make up the product for this firm. Naturally, the firm has a most efficient system of exploitation and exploits these Mexicans to such an extent that it is almost unbelievable to one who does not see it with his own eyes.

Border and Language Difficulties

The problem of organization in these cities is very complicated because of the nationality question, and also because the Mexican border is open for immigration, and at any time that the Mexicans who reside in this country want to organize or ask for any improvement, they are let out and new Mexicans brought in to take their place.

The standard of living of these Mexican girls is a very low one and when one of these manufacturer's is approached for higher wages for them, he will immediately give you the argument, "Why give them any more? They don't need it. See how they live: two or three families in one shabby cabin room." The question of organization is also more complicated. The Mexicans would hardly follow the leadership of the Americans, while the Americans may not want to follow the leadership of the Mexicans. So two types of organizers have to take care of the organizations that we intend to establish in these cities, American and Mexican.

Last year, a number of American and Mexican women organized a local and joined the International, but the manufacturers began to discriminate. The International could not give them the necessary attention and the only thing that is left of that local at present is the charter. Upon the direction of President Dubinsky, I visited this city. I have met a number of the leading lights of the American girls who work in the shops, and also some of the leading lights of the Mexicans. The Central Labor Union in San Antonio seems to be a very alive and fine organization. Especially did the secretary of this organization make a good im-

pression on me. There was also a young lady there by the name of Emily Jordan, who is the representative of the United Garment Workers in that city, a very high and fine, intelligent type of young lady who knows the movement thoroughly and has made the movement a part of her life. With her help, I came in contact with these different elements and have engaged an American as well as a Mexican organizer to begin the work of organizing in that city. I also had a conference with a young Mexican lady from Laredo, Texas, in connection with an organization of Mexican women needle workers who were organized last year, as they claim, for the purpose of helping the President put over the New Deal.

Mexicans Could Be Organized

That was the first time I had an opportunity to meet groups of Mexican workers. Most of them speak English, but a good many speak Spanish only. Naturally, they are very naive as far as labor organizations are concerned. They only recently organized a number of workers in a few of the trades. My impression is that if proper measures were adopted they could be organized and kept in organization. There is another thing that stands out, and that is that Americans in these cities realize that in order for them to hold on to the higher standard of living they must do something to bring up the Mexican workers to the same standard. If not, they will either be thrown out of the industry completely or be reduced to the same standard as the Mexican, which would mean suicide for them. And all of this American element is willing to give a helping hand to any organization that will get these Mexicans together in order to improve their condition. The Mexicans themselves are very enthusiastic. The thing that should be done is to instill in them confidence in themselves and drive out the inferiority complex which seems to prevail among them.

As stated before, it was the first time I ever met groups of Mexican people and, in fact, I was very enthusiastic about them. Their music, their songs, their emotions, are so appealing that one cannot help

but like them. It is true that while I was in San Antonio I was warned not to go on the West Side at night because to find one with a knife in his back is not a novelty in that city. The West Side is a section which holds a riffraff element of the Mexican people. Every other city in the country has sections of this kind and a riffraff element of this type, but the Mexican people as a whole cannot be blamed for it. I am convinced that it will not take very long before the International will have strongly organized Mexican locals in this section of the country.

RESOLUTION OF ORGANIZATION

Last week, we were called to a meeting by our business agent, David Hollander.

At the meeting our business agent reported to us that the Union had collected for the workers of our shop five hundred dollars (\$500.00) from our jobber. This was a big surprise to us.

We, therefore, express our appreciation to our Union for taking care of our interests. It is not so much the money, but we feel that there is somebody on whom the workers can depend for protection.

The Workers of
B. & E. DRESS
326 West 26th Street
New York City



Teresa Angiero, (right) President Puerto Rico Needle Workers' Union, With Group of Associates.

Racine Rainwear Strikers Win Long Fight

(As we go to press, we received a wire from Bro. Blais that the Racine strike has been won and settled.—E.S.)

In Racine, Wisconsin, there is the Chicago Rubber Clothing Company, a concern which employs 140 workers and manufactures raincoats.

About two months ago the workers organized and procured a charter from the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union as Local 187. At the request of President David Dubinsky I went there to install the local. While there, we conferred with the firm about recognition of the Union and about a general agreement. Although the president of the firm spoke nicely and made many promises, it was obvious that this would not lead to a contract.

Several days later the workers were out on strike.

Town's Labor Helps in Fight

The strike is being led by Brother Harry Ruffer. He immediately contacted the Racine Trades and Labor Council and the officers of the Council, especially Brother Bill Summers, the president, and Brother Walter Jensen, vice-president. They threw themselves into the work with their full energies, so that the strike in general became the talk of the town and the interest of the entire labor movement there. Inasmuch as the strikers had decided to picket the plant for the complete twenty-four hours, both by day and by night, the workers of the Nash Automobile Factory, who number about 1,600 and have a strong union, decided that every one of their members must picket the shop at least ten hours a week. And they really picket.

Although we have a headquarters about half a block away from the plant, as it became too cold to picket by day and still colder by night, the automobile workers, our co-strikers, found a way—they obtained boards and other building materials, and erected what they call the "palace." It is a sort of house with three walls and a roof. This palace has

been erected on the sidewalk directly opposite the entrance to the plant.

In the strike headquarters a kitchen was installed on the very first day. A committee was appointed to prepare the food and care for the cooking. In passing, permit me to compliment the cooks, for the cooking is very tasty. And may I also offer thanks to the neighboring farmers. They are indeed scarcely farmers any more. Many of them are class-conscious individuals who realize that the interests of the farmer and of the industrial worker are one and the same; they therefore see to it that our strikers are more or less provided with vegetables.

Vegetables, Milk Supplied Free

Three weeks ago there occurred an interesting story. A farmer came to us and declared that he would like to help the strikers, but he had no money. All he had was a field of cabbages, and if the strikers wanted to they could come to the field and cut as much as they needed. A committee immediately left and gathered enough cabbages for a regiment of soldiers. The milk drivers' union sees to it that the strikers shall have enough milk and every morning fresh milk is sent to satisfy the needs of the pickets.

As regards coffee, meat, and the like, and also as regards some cash for the strikers, these are the concerns of the International itself.

This is no great luxury, I can say, however, with certainty, that the strikers are happy and ready for battle. They suffer no hunger! And now about the picket line: the plant is near the railroad tracks. And in ordinary times, when the firm would receive raw material and send off finished goods, a freight car would run straight into the yard, where the loading or unloading took place.

The first week of the strike, the

firm, as usual, loaded a freight car with finished raincoats and wished to take it out of the yard. As the doors opened, however, and the locomotive began to move, the pickets stretched themselves across the tracks and shouted as with one voice that the car would not leave the yard unless it were over their dead bodies. The strikers won. The locomotive stopped several yards away from the pickets. The strikers, by this very act, showed a courage, a determination, which must be admired at by everyone. The freight car is still standing there. A few days later the chief of police reminded himself that he was, after all, still somewhat of a chief, and he therefore issued an order to the police to drive away the pickets and, if the pickets insisted upon their right to picket, then the police should use tear gas bombs. The police carried out this order, as orthodox policemen do, and began to bombard the pickets with tear gas bombs incessantly. The air was full of the harmful gases which blinded everyone on the picket line. The pickets fell to the side-walk and amidst coughings called to one another: "Don't leave the picket line!"

Gas Bombs Didn't Help

Again our strikers won. True it is that several pickets were injured and had to be taken to the hospital. But the freight car did not leave the yard and still stands on the same spot.

Thanks to this action, the Racine labor movement registered a strong protest which so aroused the people that the city council was forced to consider the question.

Our friend J. Harvey, the only Socialist alderman, proposed a resolution censuring the chief of police for his "pretty" work. The resolution was unanimously passed.

The entire question of whether it would be permissible in the future to use tear gas bombs against strikers was referred to a special committee which is to bring its recommendations to the city council.

South River Fills Theatre for 1st Anniversary

There are many ways in which this may be written up. One is simply to state the facts, which in themselves speak loudly enough. Here they are!

On Wednesday afternoon, November 14, 1934, a half-holiday was declared and all of the workers of Local 150 gathered at the Capitol Theatre in South River to celebrate their first anniversary. Long before the doors of the theatre opened, hundreds of workers were waiting for admittance. They came from all over Middlesex County, from Perth Amboy, from Woodbridge, from New Brunswick, from Jamesburg and South River.

Flowers and potted plants from the various shops made their appearance at the theatre early in the morning. Young ladies, dressed in their native Hungarian costumes, served as usherettes.

The program opened with the showing of the International motion picture, "Mafeking On," which the local "Magyar Herald" described as a "stirring document of historical interest."

A musical program followed. Samuel Carmell, violinist, an exceptionally fine young artist, accompanied at the piano by Olga Von Till, played the First Movement of

the Mayor of the city, Mr. Brewster, is very sympathetic to the strikers. Through his initiative several conferences have been held.

The City Service League, an organization devoted to civic questions, has appointed a committee of two, composed of Father John O'Boyle and Rabbi Aaron Kahn, two fine personalities, who together with the Mayor are using every means to bring the two sides to an agreement. The firm is stubborn, however, and refuse to enter into a contract with the union; instead of a contract, the firm wishes to issue a shop-policy declaration embodying ten points and saying nothing. This declaration, the firm says, it is ready to underwrite together with the workers. The strikers have on more than one occasion let the firm know that without an agreement with the union they would not return to work.

By Yone Finkelsht
Secretary Local 150

the Mendelssohn Concerto, the Adagio Movement of the Tchaikovsky Concerto, and "Hejre Kati," by Hubay.

A Gallery of Speakers

Simon Baumrind, manager of Local 150, was introduced as chairman of the afternoon by Elizabeth Mohr, chairlady of the Executive Council. After a short address of welcome to the members and guests of Local 150, he introduced the speakers. Harry Wandler, Manager of the Out-of-Town Department and a vice-president of the International, was the first speaker. Brother Salvatore Nino, another vice-president of the I. L. G. W. U., who spoke next, especially delighted our members with a description of his reception by the police department in New Brunswick and other sections of this locality when he made his appearance here some years ago. G. Zybert, a former aide-man of Warsaw, now connected with the International Labor Chest, spoke to the audience in Polish. Brother Albert Liberti, manager of Local 145, Passaic, N. J., gave a short address. The final speaker of the afternoon was Frank Croswalthe, general organizer for the I. L. G. W. U. and a well beloved Negro labor orator, who made a beautiful and eloquent plea for union and unity.

Dinner in The Evening

In the evening, to top the spirit of festivity, a dinner was served at the Hotel Woodrow Wilson, New Brunswick, in honor of the chairlady and Executive Council of Local 150. There were a few after-dinner speeches made by those of our guests who hadn't the opportunity to speak in the afternoon. James Black, President of the Central Trade and Labor Federation; Edward Thompson, Organizer of the Socialist Party of New Brunswick; and a number of others who had at one time or another, within the short duration of our existence as a

local, lent us their assistance towards building an organization worthy of being called a union.

These are simple facts. But there are a few other things that should be written of the celebration of Local 150. A little more than a year ago, South River was an unorganized, distressed territory. The workers were torn apart daily by all sorts of conflicts. One worker consistently fought against the others, and all together were subject to exploitation and miserable working conditions. No single worker dared to raise his or her voice against any existing condition. They lived in an atmosphere of constant fear and selfish competition.

To Work, To Fight, To Play

To move from that to a time when it is possible for all of the workers to gather together in a group to celebrate their solidarity, to praise the organization that made them a power, that gave them a voice—this is truly progress. True, the season has been bad, work has been extremely scarce; there are many things on the horizon that are disheartening, but there is an organization that has maintained conditions. There is no more selfish competition. The workers have learned how to work together for the common good; have learned that they need no longer fear to raise a protest against any condition in the shop that seems to them to be unfair. They are a power now, with a power behind them.

They have learned, too, to play together. Those of our guests who were present at the dinner in the evening can vouch for the delightful spontaneity and spirit of gaiety that was expressed.

The story of this celebration cannot be considered complete without adding a word of thanks, expressed by all of the workers, for the splendid job that Simon Baumrind, manager of Local 150, has done in this locality. He has, in his quiet way, overcome one difficulty after another, asking not for thanks, nor praise, but for permission to work to give all that is in him towards the cause closest to his heart: the cause of Labor.

N.Y. Corset Workers Mark Up First Year

By Abraham Snyder
Manager, Local No. 32

At the request of President Dubinsky, I took over, in November, 1933, the management of a newly-chartered union, which is now known as the "Corset and Brassiere Workers' Union, Local 32." The union grew out of the general strike which was in progress from September 12 to October 3 of last year. During that strike, President Dubinsky negotiated with the corset manufacturers and succeeded in reaching an understanding with them which called for a collective agreement guaranteeing the workers a union shop, a 37½-hour work-week, price committees to settle prices for piece work, a 10 per cent wage raise, observance of legal holidays, and other conditions beneficial to the workers of the trade. It was also understood that all questions which could not be settled between the Union and the association should be referred to an impartial chairman for arbitration.

This understanding was reported to the strikers at a meeting, who rallied it and returned to work the following day. No time was left to hold individual shop meetings and no union books were issued. All this was to be arranged later.

Our Early Difficulties

The strike was officially settled on the 27th of October, but the signing of the agreement did not take place until the 7th of December, more than two months after the settlement of the strike. The delay was due to the fact that in this trade no union had ever existed before; it was an entirely new phenomenon for the manufacturers, and it alarmed them. Each word and each line in the agreement had to be repeatedly explained until it was finally agreed upon.

It was equally as difficult to bring together and organize the workers after they returned to the shops, as the season lasted only a short while and work ceased early. Nevertheless, we were busy daily with shop and group meetings until we finally succeeded in developing the local into a functioning condition.

We had other difficulties to over-

come. We have, for example, a code in this trade. This code was drafted by the National Association of Corset and Brassiere Manufacturers, composed of manufacturers of the entire United States. The code was the fourth signed by President Roosevelt and took effect on August 28, 1933. Since no union existed at that time, there, naturally, was no one to fight for a code more favorable to labor. True, our legal advisor, Elias Lieberman, appeared in Washington in the name of the I.L.G.W.U. at the hearing and tried to obtain a more favorable code. His progress, however, was blocked by the fact that he could not establish the existence of a union in this trade at that time. For this reason, the existing code is of little benefit to the workers as it contains a 44-hour work-week and a minimum wage of \$14 per week for all workers except cutters who are to receive \$25 per week.

Wage Rates Now Altered

Despite all these complications and difficulties, our local has made fine progress. We succeeded last April in reaching a supplementary agreement with the employers, embodying new minimum wage scales for the different branches in the industry. The \$14 maximum, which we mentioned previously, became a guaranteed minimum. An average minimum of 52½ cents an hour for all single needle operators and 60 cents for all multiple needle machine operators was agreed upon, and it was further agreed that the wage scales of the cutters were to be \$40 per week for full-fledged men and \$30 per week for apprentices.

In every shop there exists at present a price committee settling prices for pieceworkers.

Much work also has been done and is still being done in the unorganized field. We are conducting an unrelenting activity in the non-union shops and bringing them under the

Wanner of the Union. In this undertaking, too, we have met with difficulties. There still exist workers who call themselves to be initiated by the bosses and believe that they do not need a union. The boss would favor them by giving them a company union in which he, or his foreman, is the leader and dispenser of favors. Difficult as it was to enlighten these workers, we have, nevertheless, succeeded in organizing them and medium-sized shops.

Complaints concerning prices come to us daily as the majority of our members work by the piece. Often we collect back-pay for completed work, for overtime or for a legal holiday for which some employers conveniently forgot to pay.

Dismissed Workers Reinstated

We also receive many complaints about discharges. Hardly a day passes but that we have to take up one or more discharge cases, and it is with a special pleasure that we point to the fact that, with very few exceptions, we have been able to reintegrate every discharged worker back on his job.

In the matter of educational work, we are not negligent either. With the help of the Educational Department of the I.L.G.W.U., we are striving to bring to our members the true workers-class spirit and to teach them to understand modern economic life and show them the methods through which they can best carry in the struggle for improvement of their conditions.

We also participate in all the important affairs of the trade-union movement. Our local helps all organizations which call upon us for aid. Our shops have also contributed towards the "Anti-Nazi Fascist Fund," and we have been able to turn over to President Dubinsky a check covering the \$11 quota levied on our local.

In its corsetarily short life, our Union has achieved quite a record. The members of Local 32 are learning fast to appreciate their organization, and we trust their cooperation we shall continue the struggle for greater achievements.

N. Y. Dress Pressers Build Sturdy Union News Lines from Garment Sidelines

Our local came into the family of the L.L.G.W.U. only a few weeks before last year's general strike. We were then only a few hundred strong, and, to be correct, our entire local, from the first to the last man, seared during that strike as a picket committee of the whole. During that strike, we laid the foundation for the mighty Local 60, which was to blossom forth in the dress industry within a short time.

The Source of Our Strength

Local 60 is a well-knit, responsive body of workers largely for the reason that its members, the thousands of pressers in the dress factories of New York, cling as close to their leaders as their leaders cling to them. Most of their leaders, in fact, are their shop buddies and devote all their free hours to volunteer service for their union. In this manner, they are bound together by threads with the daily life and the daily struggles of their fellow workers.

Let it attempt here to sum up what Local 60 has done for its members during the past year.

Shortly after the general strike the union sounded a warning to all the dress pressers against possible wage reductions. Through meetings and a thorough system of shop control, we kept up our earning standards. Before long, the members of Local 60 realized that the Union would not trifle with offenders, and our governing board, with Brother Philip Kallinsky as chairman, made that impression stick into the minds of the pressers. Those who were caught accepting reductions were speedily fined. The result was that the members of Local 60 were able to wage scales in the shops without exception.

Direct Benefits;—Control

The local also fought hard against dismissal of workers from jobs and kept a vigil against violations of the 35-hour work-week law. To keep the members in constant touch with this iron-clad policy of the local with reference to work hours and wage scales, we literally had to hold thousands of shop meetings, which

By Max Cohen
Manager, Local 60

converted our offices into a veritable beehive.

During the same period, we succeeded in collecting large sums of back pay from employers who attempted to chisel from workers' pay, most of it in small sums, as we never permit complaints of this sort to grow old and we nip the hostilities of chiseling plans in the bud. Of course, that all involved an immense amount of work and for this a great deal of credit is due our executive board, under the leadership of our chairman, J. Wasilovsky; our standing committees which have maintained the prestige and the working-class integrity of our organization; our membership committee, with Brother Meyer Love as chairman; our grievance board, with Brother Philip Kallinsky, chairman; the finance committee, with Brother Sam Landman at its head, and the relief committee, with Brother Brinkow as chairman.

It is worthwhile mentioning here that though our sick fund has been closed for the first year, the relief committee never let a needy member go away with empty hands. And to all these committees and active workers, those who come day in and day out to the office to help carry on the work of the Union; I wish to express, in the name of Local 60, sincere thanks.

Our New Departments

Within the past few months, Local 60 formed an organization department with Brother Meyer Love as chairman, principally for the control of the 35-hour work-week. The committee working with this department have visited during the relatively brief time of the department's existence over 1,500 shops. We have also organized an educational branch under the leadership of Brother Wasilovsky, with Elsie Rosenfeld as educational director. This new branch of our activity is carrying out a lively program of education and recreation for Local 60 members.

No less interesting is the work

among the Negro dress pressers in which Local 60 is actively interested. When Local 60 left Local 35 in the Summer of 1933, we hardly had a single Negro member in our midst, despite the fact that there were hundreds of colored workers, mostly women, in the trade. The Negro workers were among the worst exploited in our craft and had to withstand a great deal of abuse from employers, head pressers and even ordinary pressers. Due to our efforts, however, these Negro women pressers have now become a part of our loyal army and are displaying a marvelous devotion to the organization. Their enthusiasm for our Union is easily explained. Local 60 treats its members alike, without distinction and without bias. Our members today are firmly convinced that the Union is a great benefit to them as it is to the white workers, and that is why they worship their International Union and its pressers' division, Local 60.

The Union has actually emancipated the Negro pressers from this double form of exploitation. We forbade white pressers to employ colored helpers and today all pressers in the shop work for the same employer and receive the same price for each dress. And, needless to say, by keeping up the wage standards of our colored members, we are automatically protecting the earnings of our white members.

Social Events

Since the general strike, Local 60 has organized and successfully carried out a number of social evenings in which white and colored members, alike, took an active part. In brief, 1934 has been an intense and fruitful year for Local 60. And while the dress pressers still have not reached the economic level to which we all aspire, their situation is considerably better than what it was in 1933. This much may be said for our local: We intend to carry on and lay ahead, striving continually to improve the lot of our workers. We have as loyal and as militant a membership as any trade union in the country can boast of, and this loyalty and devotion are our best guarantee for future success.

The new policy of decentralizing the entire field machinery for code enforcement in order to expedite disposal of complaints of code violations assumed realistic form when the National Industrial Recovery Board sanctioned in November establishment of ten regional offices under supervision of Sol A. Rosenblatt, former NRA divisional administrator in charge of garment industries, and recently appointed director of field administration of enforcement.

Under the new plan enforcement of labor provisions and code fair practices is to be definitely separated and regional councils will dispose of all cases coming within their respective areas with exception of 7-A cases, or, in other words, labor controversies which will continue to be handled by the National Labor Relations Board. The report submitted to the NLRB by William H. Davis, former national compliance director who recently returned to the NRA as special adviser on enforcement, urged that violators whose offenses are willful and repeated be brought to court for punishment, instead of NLR being required with restitution of back wages due.

Domestic competition in knitted outerwear is increasing in Peru, according to the Department of Commerce. Knitting mills in that country are progressing and new plants are being set up with a resulting gradual restriction of the market for imported garments. There is also keen domestic competition in knit underwear, but considerable quantities are still imported, chiefly from Japan.

Nicaragua has established a cotton plant for the production of cotton stockings. The annual capacity of the plant is said to be 144,000 pairs.

In Cuba cotton and rayon hosiery is being manufactured in or near Havana by seven firms, two of which produce children's hosiery and one of which manufactures full fashioned silk stockings. In addition, one Havana mill manufactures full-fashioned silk hosiery exclusively.

Salow of handkerchiefs at whole

By Frances Keane

sale for the first week in November, an end-of-season week in all apparel industries, totalled 1,099,000, according to figures compiled by the Handbag Code Authority.

Dress code label sales at wholesale aggregated 1,37,000 for the same week.

The Undergarment and Negligee Code Authority reports that sales of NRA labels for the week ended Nov. 10 aggregated 2,130,000, compared with 2,019,000 for the previous week.

For the week ended Saturday, Nov. 10, the Coat and Suit Code Authority reports label sales for New York City and the metropolitan area as 391,472. For the entire country, label sales for week ended Nov. 3 were 477,473.

The Infants' and Children's Code Authority reports label sales for the same week as 2,535,000.

The Millinery Code Authority reported that label sales for the same week were 1,358,000.

Eighty-five per cent of the workers in the millinery industry are unionized, reports submitted to the General Executive Board of the cap and millinery department. United Matterns, Cap and Millinery Workers' International Union, in session in Montreal last month, showed.

The union membership has climbed to 50,000 in both the cap and millinery departments. Max Zaritsky, president of the department, indicated. When organization work was completed on the Pacific Coast and in the Southern area, he said, the millinery industry will be completely unionized.

The necessity for unemployment insurance in the garment industry has become so apparent and legislation by the next session of Congress almost a certainty, that the Department of Commerce has asked each member of the Dress Code Authority to answer a detailed questionnaire outlining his attitude on the subject of unemployment insurance, to get

a wide range of viewpoints on the matter.

The questions emphasize the wide scope of the subject of unemployment insurance. They cover questions on the underlying principles of unemployment insurance, methods of building up reserves, and the feasibility of voluntary or legislative plans.

The labor costs to be applied in the manufacture of coats and suits for spring 1935 fixed by George W. Alger, impartial chairman of the coat and suit industry, are unchanged over the corresponding spring rate of 1934. The rates will apply to basic body parts.

In order to alleviate much of the difficulty that has accompanied prior settlement in past seasons, Mr. Alger has decided to set up a board to hear appeals on complaints arising in connection with the settlement of prices. This board will be organized within the next few days.

From Cleveland it is learned that between 30 to 40 per cent of the contractors in the dress trade in that city have been out of business during the past six months, due to a trend among the manufacturers to expand in idle shops wherever possible.

The make-up of the contractors in this market is said to have been slightly altered gradually for several months. Despite efforts to keep it at 20 per cent on overhead expenses, it has gone as low as 10 per cent in some larger ones. Even at this figure, work from the manufacturers continued to become scarcer and scarcer until a number of contractors were forced to close their shops, while others continued to operate on a curtailed scale.

Most of the workers employed in these curtailed shops have been absorbed by the expansions and enlargements of the inside shops. Some contractors have finished their plans. Some dress houses, however, seem to be operating successfully with a number of outside shops.

A hearing on proposed amendments to the dress manufacturing

code will be conducted by M. D. Vincent, deputy NRA administrator, on December 12. A proposed change in the labor provisions would limit work to seven hours a day and prohibit work on Saturdays and Sundays except with the approval of the Code Authority.

Another proposed amendment concerns a change in the charge for dress labels.

Nearly all those worn by women are ridiculous in the eyes of Kenneth Collins, assistant to the president of Gimbel Bros. "I don't think that I have seen more than ten in fashion in the past ten years that were not fundamentally ludicrous and unbecoming," said Mr. Collins at a meeting last month of the Art-in-Trade Club.

"Practically no woman in America would agree with me on this, but the question of women's clothes has always interested me, and I have some firm convictions regarding it. Women themselves taught me this belief without their really knowing it."

"Curiously enough, I am of the belief that the average man dresses in better taste than the average woman. I don't mean to pay men any compliment at the expense of women. I think the only reason their clothes are ordinarily in better taste than are those of many women is because men are frightened of anything that is fashionable and they therefore rarely take a chance in choosing colors for neckties or suits that are out of the general run."

Salemen of the dress industry are not going to give up their fight for recognition just because the Dress Code Authority has decided that it cannot accept the salesman's program, according to Miss Tessie Segal, counsel for the Association of Dress Salesmen's Association. The Code Authority at its meeting in November declined to give the salesman the recognition they have sought.

The decision of the Code Authority was not unexpected, and the Salesmen's Association is preparing papers to attempt to bring about a hearing on the salesman's issue before the NRA at Washington.

That union sentiment is fast gain-

ing momentum in Milwaukee retail establishments despite reported intimidation by buyers and other store executives, was definitely shown when the salesmen and saleswomen of the big Boston Store of that city walked out on strike several days ago.

A meeting of Milwaukee store clerks, held on November 14, was attended by more than 500 clerks, the overwhelming majority of them women. The spirit at the meeting was militant and during the evening references were made more than once to "flying squadrons" bringing to mind picketing methods employed by the textile workers in their recent strike in the South. Lewis J. Hart, a general organizer of the A. F. of L., who was the chief speaker at the big meeting, was loudly applauded when he declared that "in several campaigns in other trade unions proved as good fighters as the men."

"This matter of securing union recognition," said Mr. Hart, "is not a Sunday school picnic. Union membership may not be a bed of roses. It is time for our members to show their colors and consecrate themselves to the cause, so that when crises develop, they will be backing up their leaders and not let them be fed to the wolves."

In answer to the merchants' contention that the Union's demands would bankrupt them, Hart emphasized that employers today are making the same cry that was voiced years ago when organized labor first began demanding higher wages and

shorter hours. Merchandise in stores would move much more quickly if wages were higher and hours shorter.

Motion pictures, taken by the Bonnaz Embroidery Union, Local 66, of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, of different embroidery operations were submitted to M. D. Vincent, acting deputy NRA administrator, at a hearing in Washington on Nov. 20 upon a proposed amendment to interpret the code of fair competition for the pleating, stitching, bonnaz and hand embroidery industry.

These motion pictures will attempt to settle the confusion that now exists over the interpretation of various embroidery operations, and also reinforce the union's contention for the abolition of homework wherever embroidery is being manufactured. The confusion has arisen out of the fact that some codes covering embroidery operations abolish homework while others permit it.

JULIUS HOCHMAN RETURNING

Julius Hochman, general manager of the Joint Board of the Dress and Waistmakers' Union, is expected to return some time during the week of December 9 from his two months' vacation trip in Europe. Brother Hochman sailed from New York on October 13 and included in his tour visits to Moscow, Warsaw, London, Paris and other important cities.



Cutters' News of the Month

By Samuel Perlmutter, V.-P.,
Manager Local 10

Style Piracy Causes Ado In Dress Industry

The recent demand on the Dress Code Authority, made by the higher priced dress manufacturers, better known as "stylists," to insert a "style piracy" clause in the Code in order to prevent copying or stealing styles, attracted considerable attention.

The N.R.A. has done away with several unfair practices in the dress industry. It has eliminated to a great extent the competition between maker and worker, which has existed prior to our last general strike, thanks to the enforcement machinery set up by the Union and by the code authorities. It appears, however, that insofar as the employers are concerned such unfair competition still persists.

This question of style piracy came up before a recent hearing held in Washington attended by a large group representing various price ranges. Several high-price manufacturers displayed at that hearing garments originated by them at prices ranging from \$13 up, copies of which are being sold by other producers as low as \$4.75, a state of affairs which, if permitted to continue, eventually would force them out of business.

The popular-price employers, sensing the danger ahead of them, thereupon proceeded to organize what is known as the "Popular Price Dress Manufacturers' Group," with a reported membership of 450, or a majority of the National Dress Association, which claims 650 members. The popular-price group engaged former District Attorney Pecora to fight their case. The main issue in this fight is the proposal for "regulation of styles," which means that "no employer may cut any garment before the styles in question were first registered and checked by a Registration Bureau established for that purpose."

This newly-formed organization has set up a board of governors and a chairman consisting of the largest firms in the New York market producing merchandise at \$4.75 and below.

It is interesting to note that a recent report issued by the Dress Code Authority discloses the fact that of 43 million labels issued in the dress market, 38 million were consumed by the popular bracket houses, the \$4.75-and-below houses.

Building Chairman Plan of Control Under Way

Local 10 has been meeting with activity in the last two months. Meetings of building chairmen and of committees were being held continuously in the large Executive Board room to devise ways and means for more effective control of the 25-hour work-week.

The following plan was finally accepted:

1. Members to be called for control duty by buildings only. The number of cutters to be drafted each Saturday to be in proportion to the number of cutters employed in the building.
2. Every building is ordered to send its quota.
3. The members are to appear Saturday mornings in the office of the local, upon issue of call, where they will be designated to guard the buildings by Brothers Harry Wachtel and Max L. Gordon, who are in charge of this work in the Clark

ATTENTION! CUTTERS' MEMBERS OF LOCAL TEN

Meetings for the month of December will take place in the office as herein arranged:

1. Regular Membership Meeting, 1st Monday, Dec. 16, 1934.

in ARLINGTON HALL,
23 ST. MARK'S PLACE,
at 7:30 P. M. Sharp.

Cutters are urged to attend without fail.

and Dress division in conjunction with the building chairmen.

4. Cutters will be designated to watch their own building in order to make identification more feasible.

5. Committees are not to leave their jobs until discharged by the building chairmen.

6. Any cutter who fails to respond for control duty upon second notice will be subject to disciplinary measures.

That this plan is more effective than the one formerly in vogue was evident from the response on Saturday, November 24. Out of 100 notices sent out, 175 responses and the remainder gave reasonable excuse for failure to attend.

More Firms Forced to Remit Fines and Back Pay for Violations

The list conducted by the Control Department of Local 10 revealed a number of violations on the part of the following firms:

Cummings & Charnoff, 1285 Broadway. For some time this firm had been suspected of infractions of the agreement. Although operating an inside plant of 14 machines and an equal number outside, the firm employed only two cutters. What strengthened this suspicion was the fact that for some time the two plants had been operating at full capacity because the factory owners that the 25-hour week was not being observed by the firm. The local made every effort to apprehend the violators but did not succeed until Saturday, November 17. When information reached the office that the two cutters were working, Brotherhoods Morris Gold, Harry Wachtel and Max Chasman visited the shop, but in order to avoid being discovered by the firm, they were compelled to hide behind the partition until noon. Both cutters, Zeile and Aaron, were then apprehended and ordered to show their pay envelopes in order to ascertain the number of hours they had worked that week. When they arrived at the office the local was established that lining cut, George Zeiler, No. 11830, received \$10.90 per week instead of \$4.90, while the other cutter, Samuel Aaron, No. 11832, worked illegal hours. The office communicated with the next page.

Cutters' News of the Month

(Continued from previous page)
 cated with the firm and after some hectic negotiations the firm paid a fine of \$100 and remitted \$300 in back pay.

60,000 Garments "Lost" and "Found"

In the case of P. J. Barash, 27 West 20th Street, Brother Louis Stulberg called the attention of the Dress Joint Board to the fact that although the firm is known as a \$1.75 house, it was actually producing \$4.75 merchandise and above. The Joint Board assigned an accountant to investigate their books; he substantiated the complaint of Brother Louis Stulberg. Among other things, an item of sixty thousand garments was unaccounted for on the books. The firm was forced to admit that these 60,000 garments were of a higher price-range and that they did not pay the prescribed scales of wages for same. The Joint Board immediately took this matter up with the firm and, upon their refusal to remit back pay, declared a stoppage. After a week the firm was compelled to remit \$15,000 back pay, \$1,000 of which will be distributed among the cutters.

Enforcement of Equal Division of Work

The firm of Wellsley Modes, 1400 Broadway, while employing twelve cutters in their inside shop, also operate two subsidiaries, the Packard Dress and the Postiac. This firm has made it a practice during the entire season to engage men temporarily. They would be employed about a week or two and

then would be laid off in order to circumvent the trial-period clause. Brother Maurice W. Jacobs, in charge of the National Dress Department of the local, after learning of this practice, called a meeting of the cutters and instructed them that as many temporary men as had been placed during the recent months would have to remain permanently in this shop. This information was immediately transmitted to the firm which was very reluctant in carrying out these instructions. Brother Jacobs then informed the firm that unless they complied with the Union's demand, the cutters would not return to work. The firm complained to the National Association, but realizing that Local 10 was determined to enforce its decision, changed attitude and retained permanently those cutters who had been originally engaged as temporary men.

In connection with this matter, we wish to call upon all cutters to communicate to the office when securing jobs any proposals of temporary employment that are made to them. Action will then be taken immediately.

It should be remembered by the

cutters that after a week's work, if they are called in to work on the succeeding week, it would be interpreted that they had passed their trial period and had been recognized as competent by the employer.

The following communication was received from these cutters of the Wellsley Modes:

"We, the undersigned cutters, working for the Wellsley Modes, 1400 Broadway, do hereby express our appreciation to Secretary Maurice W. Jacobs, for the tactfulness and good judgment used in our case.

"We were compelled to hire ourselves temporarily and we had against us the firm and 10 cutters working there before us. Brother Jacobs used out an opportune moment and after a hard fight with both sides and the Association, we are now permanent members of the shop and are dividing work with the old cutters of the shop.

We thank Brother Jacobs for the extraordinary effort made in our case and wish him success in the labor movement."

Harry Moser, No. 5054
 Samuel Welsor, No. 4587
 Hyman Kaplan, No. 5537
 Jack Ellner, No. 9605
 Abe Kopti, No. 7457a
 Herman Kanoen, No. 153.

WORD OF GRATITUDE TO THE MEMBERSHIP

The recent testimonial dinner tendered to me on the occasion of having been elected Vice-President of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, in Chicago last June, is to me an event of great personal significance.

I feel genuinely gratified, as I view it not only as recognition shown by the membership to me personally, but rather as a marvelous demonstration of devotion, loyalty and regard for their organization.

It is, therefore, with a deep sense of joy and satisfaction that I express my gratitude to the entire Arrangement Committee which is responsible for the remarkable success of this huge affair. — ...

I further want to express my deep appreciation to the two thousand members of Local 10 who attended, as well as to the thousands who wished to come but could not possibly be accommodated because of lack of space.

I also want to thank my many friends for their splendid letters and telegrams forwarded and tokens of appreciation presented to me on this occasion. These tokens presented to me reflect the sincerity and devotion to the organization of all groups in Local 10, which I have the pleasure and fortune to represent. I have no doubt that with such marvelous co-operation we shall be able to march on for greater achievements for the International and for our Local 10.

SAMUEL PERLMUTTER,
 Manager, Local 10.

ATTENTION! UNDERWEAR CUTTERS

A branch meeting of all Underwear Cutters will be held on

MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1934,
 at ARLINGTON HALL,
 22 ST. MARK'S PLACE, N. Y.
 at 7:30 P. M. Sharp

Cutters are urged to attend without fail.